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MINERS ASKED TO CO-OPERATE

LONDON, FEB. 25.

FUEL MINISTER SAMUEL SHINWELL APPEALED FOR A MONTH'S SUPREME EFFORT BY BOTH SIDES OF THE MINING INDUSTRY TO END THE COAL CRISIS WHEN ADDRESSING MINERS AT EASINGTON, COUNTY DURHAM, LAST NIGHT.

"If everyone in the industry will co-operate with me during the next four weeks, the crisis will be averted. The problem is to get sufficient coal during the next four weeks to keep our factories going."

Mr. Shinwell rejected the suggestions that German war prisoners would be employed underground. "I would rather rely," he said, "on the good sense, skill and loyalty of British miners to produce the coal we need than make ourselves dependent on German prisoners. If the British miners cannot deliver the goods no one else can."

Mr. Shinwell said that there was not the least likelihood of the harmony between miners and Government being disturbed by the Miners' Charter which, he said, was, on the whole, a reasonable document.

Some of the provisions would have to be carefully examined and some time must elapse before the full programme was implemented.—Reuter.

HALF OF SHIP SIGHTED

KODIAK, FEB. 25.

"THE ADAK NAVAL OPERATIONS BASE YESTERDAY RADIOED THAT THE FLOATING BOW OF THE BROKEN RUSSIAN TANKER "DONBASS" HAS BEEN SIGHTED BY A SECOND RUSSIAN TANKER "BELGOROD" SOUTH OF THE ALEUTIANS.

The Captain of the "Donbass" and 15 officers are believed to be aboard the forepart and without food, since the tanker split in the North Pacific on Feb. 17.

The United States Fleet tug "Gear" has been dispatched to take the personnel off the bow and tow it to port.—Associated Press.

ANOTHER STRIKE

New York, Feb. 25.

Every available source of manpower was being mobilised in New York Sunday night as for the second time in a month the city was faced with an imminent strike of workers on its 550 miles of transit systems.

The Committee of Industrial Organisation's Transit Workers Union, which claims to represent the majority of the 32,000 transit workers, has threatened to call out the men if its demands for recognition as the sole bargaining agent, and for a $2 daily average wage rise, are not met at a meeting with the City's Board of Transportation on Tuesday.

How many actually would walk out at the call of the Union President Michael J. Quill was not known, but police commissioner Arthur Wallender said that every effort would be made to keep the system operating in the event of a strike.—Associated Press.

P.I. PAPER ON SALE AGAIN

Manila, Feb. 25.

The "Daily Bulletin" resumed publication to-day, more than four years after the Japanese ordered its publication stopped and jailed Editor Roy Bennett.

The "Bulletin's" presses and building were burned during the Battle of Manila. To-day's eight-page tabloid was printed on the presses of its chief pre-war rival, the Ramon Roces Publications.—Associated Press.

STRIKES IN SHANGHAI

Shanghai, Feb. 25.

President Chiang Kai-shek to-day ordered the local authorities to stabilise commodity prices as the strikes for higher pay, to meet the mounting living costs spread through Shanghai.

Sit-down strikes are reported among textile factory workers, customs employees, aviation mechanics, cooks and waiters.

The radio-telegraph administration employees have been out for three days.—Associated Press.

R.A.F. Strikes Will Not Be Tolerated

London, Feb. 25.

A warning to the Royal Air Force that in future "strikes" or mutinies would not be tolerated was given by the Air Under-Secretary, Mr. John Strachey, broadcasting to overseas commands on R.A.F. demobilisation. "Both R.A.F. Authorities and Government," he said, "have taken an ultra-tolerant attitude to the recent so-called 'strikes'. Actually we have been severely criticised in some quarters for being so tolerant. I know the men did not mean to mutiny but the so-called strikes were technically mutinies.

"No Government worthy of the name and certainly not the Labour Government is going to be influenced by threats of trouble."

"In comparison with the other two services, the R.A.F. was now one release group ahead of the Army and on present plans would be three groups ahead by June 30.

"For lots of reasons, the Navy had released a smaller proportion of its total strength than the R.A.F.

"By April 30, the Royal Air Force would have released 54 per cent. of the men who were serving on V-E Day and the Navy 52 per cent.—Reuter.

THE WEATHER

To-day's forecast: — Cloudy, with occasional slight rain; light south-easterly winds.

—Yesterday's temperatures:—
Maximum:—72 degrees at noon.
Minimum:—63 degrees at 5 a.m.

Halifax's Plea To America

OMAHA, FEB. 25.

THE EARL OF HALIFAX, BRITISH AMBASSADOR TO THE UNITED STATES, SAID YESTERDAY THE CRITICAL FOOD SITUATION IS CONTRIBUTING TO THE WORLD'S DISORDERS AND APPEALED TO AMERICA TO INCREASE HER FOOD SUPPLIES FOR THE STARVING MILLIONS IN EUROPE AND ASIA.

HE SAID: "HUNGRY PEOPLE NATURALLY AND INEVITABLY ARE DISCONTENTED PEOPLE AND HUNGER-DISCONTENT IS A POOR FOUNDATION FOR THE PEACEFUL AND PROSPEROUS WORLD WE ARE TRYING TO BUILD."

The Ambassador said the greatest need in Europe was wheat and in Asia, rice. He said: "Estimates of rice shortage have been put as low as 700,000 tons and as high as 2,000,000 tons but even at the lower figure it is bad enough. In the United Kingdom was have stopped the sale of rice and are now sending our stocks to India and the Far East."

The Ambassador declared the United States and Britain were cooperating in all possible efforts to help feed the hungry of the world.

OFFICIAL FIGURES

Meanwhile the Agriculture Department announced that supplies of all grains in principal exporting countries were about 15 per cent smaller on Jan. 1 than the year previously with wheat stocks down about 25 per cent.

Wheat supplies in the United States, Canada, Australia and Argentina are listed as 1,392,000,000 bushels as compared to 1,868,000,000 a year ago and 2,206,000,000 in 1944.

The report said that the "exportable surplus is estimated at 475,000,000 to 500,000,000 bushels, much smaller than the estimated world import requirement."

The Commerce Department predicted a substantial rise in United States' exports this year but said that "large scale" foreign loans will be necessary despite "very large" gold and dollar holdings by foreign countries.

The Department said that merchandise exports this year, including U.N.R.R.A. and loan finances and shipments, probably will exceed the substantial margin of $7,300,000,000 annual rate recorded in the final quarter of 1945.

On the financing side the Department said that it is expected there will be an increase in imports of over $4,100,000,000 which was recorded last year and which will be more than offset by lower United States' military expenditures abroad.

USE OF RESERVES

As a result foreign countries have to use accumulated gold and dollar reserves and get loans from the United States.

The Department said that foreign holdings aggregate $16,000,000,000 in gold and $7,000,000,000 in short term dollar balances. Three to five billion is estimated the maximum in dollar exchange that could be drawn without causing these countries to invoke restrictions on trading.

"Large scale foreign lending, therefore, will be needed to realise the full contribution which the high volume of international trade and investment can make both to full utilisation of United States' resources and world economic and political stability."

The report continued that "broad provisions are already been made for expanding the future outflow of American capital above the high level reached last year with the aggregate potential amount totalling $14,000,000,000." — Associated Press.

British Army Riot Under Control

LONDON, FEB. 25.

THE RIOTING BY HUNDREDS OF BRITISH SOLDIERS PRISONERS AT THE ALDERSHOT DETENTION BARRACKS WHICH BEGAN ON SATURDAY NIGHT WAS BROUGHT UNDER CONTROL ON SUNDAY AFTERNOON.

LIEUTENANT-GENERAL SIR JOHN CROCKER, G.O.C., SOUTHERN COMMAND, ANNOUNCED THAT "THE MUTINY IS OVER."

Britain Blamed For Cairo Riots

LONDON, FEB. 25.

MOSCOW RADIO COMMENTATOR YAKOV VIKTOROV IN A BROADCAST HEARD HERE TO-DAY CHARGED THAT BRITISH FORCES HAD PROVOKED THE CAIRO RIOTING RECENTLY.

Viktorov said what happened was that four British lorries coming from the chief headquarters of the barracks had plunged into a crowd and run over the people. The demonstrators wanted to seize the culprits but the British soldiers opened fire on the people. The peaceful manifestation thus changed into something else.

The British army version of how the riot started was that three British army trucks approaching the barracks were stopped by a crowd demonstrating against the presence of the British army in Egypt. Drivers of two of the vehicles were removed and beaten while the vehicles were burned and troops from the barracks then attempted to disperse the crowd by firing over their heads, the army account said.—Associated Press.

Later a score or more men who had been holding out on the roof of the barracks, known as the "glass house" because of the skylight roof on the main building, surrendered quietly.

The riot started when a small number of men managed to break out of their rooms and released the rest of the prisoners. The three guards on duty were overpowered.

The yelling prisoners climbed to the roof as troops and firemen were rushed to the scene. They showered down mess plates, bottles, bricks, steel helmets, broken bedsteads, chairs and every other missile they could find and shouted their defiance at the authorities.

HOSE ATTACK

The military troops formed a cordon around the main building while firemen, working under floodlights, played hoses on the rioters who held out all night against the powerful streams despite the freezing temperature.

General Crocker blamed the mutiny on a half-dozen prisoners who escaped from the Northallerton detention camp a fortnight ago and who, he said, had fomented the trouble on their arrival at Aldershot.—Associated Press.

Tommy Not To Fraternise In Japan

Tokyo, Feb. 25.

Lieutenant-General John Northcott, Commander of the British Commonwealth Occupation Forces in Japan at his first press conference to-day revealed that no flat order would be issued against fraternisation.

The British policy, he said, was "to be polite."

"I rely on the gentlemanly behaviour of my troops," he said.

Pointing out that he intended to discourage British troops from paying any social calls on Japanese homes, General Northcott said that he would issue an order to this effect "if necessary."

He declared that there is a possibility that the area of British occupation would be extended before long—possibly northwards to include the cities of Osaka and Kobe.

The latest arrivals at Kure to-day were 5,800 Australian infantry troops. The main force of United Kingdom troops is due to land there about the middle of March.—Reuter.

New Swiss Minister

London, Feb. 25.

Thomas Maitland Snow, until recently British Ambassador at Bogota, Columbia, has been appointed Minister at Berne, Switzerland, to succeed C. J. Norton, the Foreign Office announced.

Harold Lister Farquhar, Counsellor at the Embassy at Teheran, has been appointed Minister at Addis Ababa, to succeed Mr. R. G. Howe.—Associated Press.

DANISH KING ILL

Copenhagen, Feb. 25.

Seventy-five year-old King Christian of Denmark was yesterday reported to be suffering from a slight attack of pneumonia. Sources close to the Royal Court said there is no immediate danger.

A bulletin issued yesterday said "the King's general health is satisfactory but he spent a rather restless night."—Associated Press.

ANTI-YALTA PARADES IN CHINA

Chungking, Feb. 25.

Following student demonstrations in Chungking over the week-end, reports have arrived here from at least half a dozen provinces of protests and manifestos issued by various public organisations, labour unions, cultural societies and universities.

The Shanghai Postwar Reconstruction Association to-day issued a statement which accused Russia of "violating the letter and spirit of the Sino-Soviet Pact by demanding more economic concessions.

More than 3,000 students in Shanghai shouted slogans and chanted patriotic songs before the residence of the Soviet Consul-General and sent a petition to the Mayor's office asking for "a stiffer Government foreign policy."

Professors of the Kweichow University have issued a manifesto stating that China opposed the "Eastern and Inner Mongolia People's Republic," the Sinkiang Autonomous States and other "separatist" movements.

The Municipal People's Assembly in Canton and 12 public organisations in Tientsin have sent telegrams along the same lines to the Government.

MORE AGITATION

Agitation for Russian withdrawal from Manchuria continued to spread yesterday through North China

An estimated 2,000 Peiping residents held a mass meeting at which speakers denounced "Russian imperialism" and accused the Communists of being "Soviet puppets" leading a fifth column in Manchuria, Mongolia and China.

They also denounced the Yalta agreement which granted Russia special rights in Manchuria. Further demonstrations were scheduled for to-day. Students, merchants and labour leaders are participating in the demonstrations.—Associated Press.

Indonesians Dislike Dutch Proposals

BATAVIA, FEB. 25.

INITIAL OPTIMISM FOR SMOOTH PROGRESS OF THE DUTCH-INDONESIAN NEGOTIATIONS IS WANING, INDONESIAN SOURCES SAID YESTERDAY, BECAUSE OF WHAT THEY TERMED THE "CONDESCENDING" LANGUAGE OF THE DUTCH ON THE EVE OF PREMIER SUTAN SJAHRIR'S DEPARTURE TO-DAY FOR A CONFERENCE OF PARTY LEADERS AT JOGJAKARTA.

It was said that reaction to the Dutch proposals in outlying districts was decidedly unfavourable as the proposals included nothing the Dutch had not previously proposed nor any concessions demanded by "the Republic."

While Dutch and British authorities hoped that Sjahrir will be able to overcome these objections it was not assured that he will retain the Premiership in the reshuffled Indonesian Government which is expected to result from the Jogjakarta meetings. There is general confidence that he will return to Batavia, however, heading a reorganised Cabinet.

The British arbitrator, Sir Archibald Clark Kerr, is then expected to launch negotiations.

Meanwhile, the latest figure for the removal of Dutch and Eurasian internees held in Indonesian camps showed that 20,958 persons had been evacuated, more than 18,000 to Holland. The official estimate is that 4,804 are remaining to await repatriation.

The situation in the Celebes as at Menado was described as "precarious" as rebellion threatened but Batavia and Bandoeng were quiet. Three Indians were killed when a jeep was blown up near Sourabaya.—Associated Press.

MILLIONS DOOMED TO SLOW DEATH

(By. J. T. Aldeguer).

SHANGHAI, FEB. 25.

SEVERAL MILLION CHINESE REFUGEES AND TILLERS OF THE "GOOD EARTH" IN THE FOUR BATTLE-SCARED PROVINCES OF HUNAN, HUPEH, KWANGSI AND HONAN—WHICH ARE PEOPLED BY ABOUT ONE-FOURTH OF THE TOTAL CHINESE POPULATION OF 400,000,000 — ARE THREATENED WITH EXTINCTION AS THE RESULT OF ONE OF THE WORST FAMINES IN HISTORY.

IN HUNAN AND HUPEH ESPECIALLY, THOUSANDS ARE REPORTED TO BE DYING DAILY AS THE SUPPLY OF GRASS, MUD AND BARK OF TREES, ON WHICH THEY HAVE BEEN SUBSISTING FOR SOME TIME, GIVES OUT.

In the opinion of Mr. Chen, Pao-nan, Director of the Washington Office of the Chinese National Relief and Rehabilitation Administration (C.N.R.R.A.), unless immediate and substantial relief is forthcoming, millions are doomed to a lingering and painful death in the next five months.

Mr. Cheng, who has made a tour of the stricken areas, stresses the utter inadequacy of the facilities at the disposal of the C.N.R.R.A. to cope with this gigantic problem, although it is rushing whatever supplies it can to the most needy places.

Lack of transportation facilities is said to be proving a major handicap in the movement of supplies. For instance, not a single bridge is reported to be intact along the Canton-Hankow Railway between Changsha, the much war-damaged capital of Hunan, and Hankow.

The only available means of transport at present are converted Japanese three and a half ton trucks manned by Japanese prisoners of war. But these trucks can make only 20 kilometres an hour, and have to stop frequently for repairs.

MUD CAKES

About 20 kinds of grass are being eaten by the famine-stricken peasants of the four provinces, including wild turnip and dandelion.

The grass is usually boiled in water for soup, while mud is made into hard cakes.

Starving farmers often help each other to forestall death by systematically dividing grass and mudlands among themselves. Many form large nomadic groups which, after eating up the grass and mud of one area, migrate to another "pasture."

The grass used as food by the people of the afflicted provinces is said to possess litte nutritive value.

Three factors are said to be directly responsible for the famine — the serious destruction caused by the war, dislocation of farmers and the drought last year.

The great battle for the strategic Hunan centre of Hengyang, which lasted 47

(Continued on Page 6)

SHIP DISASTER

Herford, Germany, Feb. 25.

A vessel broke in two in the rough current of the Elbe River to-day. First reports here said that 102 passengers may have perished. Only eight of 110 passengers were rescued immediately.

British ships stood by to help in the rescue work.—Associated Press.

Canada's "Unbridled Campaign"

Ottawa, Feb. 25.

The Russo-Canadian relation remained strained as the Canadian Government was reported to be still undecided as to whether it should formally answer Moscow's charges that Canada was conducting an "unbridled" anti-Soviet campaign in its handling of the investigation.

Meanwhile both the United States Federal Bureau of Investigation and the British Intelligence was being given complete details of the "spy" investigation.

An official of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police estimated that the mass of documentary evidence already accumulated weighed four tons.

Much of this, he said, was scientific date pertaining to atomic and other top secret wartime discoveries. — Associated Press.

U.S. KEEPING ATOM SECRETS

London, Feb. 25.

The "Daily Express" said today that the United States Army has "stopped the flow of atom research results to Britain" because the British "have nothing new to offer" in the experimental station at Didcot, Berkshire, which is deadlocked for lack of staff.

"For more than four months our scientists have heard virtually nothing of the activities of nuclear physicists in the United States," the "Daily Express" said.

Lack of plutonium or uranium 235, which Britain was unable to get from the Americans, also delayed experiments here for which over £1,000,000 were earmarked, the newspaper said.—Associated Press.

Blame Britain

London, Feb. 25.

The Moscow radio heard here by the Associated Press quoted a Tass report from Athens saying that the Greek Communist Party had announced that it would not take part in the forthcoming elections which are to be held on March 31.

The decision, according to the Moscow radio, stressed that the "most primitive" conditions for holding the elections are lacking and added that the "British policy in Greece bears the responsibility for that."—Associated Press.

ANOTHER CRIME?

Tokyo, Feb. 25.

The Allied-controlled Japanese Government is to explain why it failed to report over 600 tons of various metals found in Sendai railway warehouse. It included nickel, ferro-tungsten, tin, ferro-vanadium, silver, lead and ferro-molybdenum. — Associated Press.

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Windsor House

Managing Editor: W. J. Keates.

Telephones:
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Britain And Russia

Mr. Bevin's foreign policy speech in the House of Commons debate could hardly have been bettered as a reply to Soviet chauvinism. The confidence in relations which is so disturbingly lacking cannot be engendered by speeches, but they can conduce to an easier approach to international problems, and the debate as a whole gave a healthy reassurance that the British people have not lost their sense of perspective. Among the most interesting disclosures by Mr. Bevin was that of the offer of an extension of Britain's treaty of friendship with Russia to a period of fifty years, and he indicated British willingness to make it more explicit and to change it in order to give confidence. Mr. Bevin also dismissed as nonsense the suggestion that Britain and Russia are drifting towards war. "The Soviet Union," he said, "is a great land power and I cannot see what there could be anything for us to fight about." He could not conceive any circumstances under which Britain and the Soviet Union should go to war. From the opposite side of the House, Mr. Anthony Eden also contributed valuably to the debate. Some of the actions of Russia might well have justified a strong attack by a Tory Die-Hard, but Mr. Eden gave the Soviet Union credit for sincerity, and expressed the conviction that her foreign policy was the outcome of the scourge of the German invasion, which so nearly swept to the gates of the Kremlin, and a very natural determination by the Russians to see that it could not happen again. This demonstration by Parliament of a right attitude of mind cannot, however, succeed in its purpose unless there is a corresponding tendency to see things objectively by the other side. World rehabilitation depends on understanding between the three Great Powers, and that implies a readiness to subordinate nationalist aims in order to achieve co-operation. It is less a new international organisation that is needed so much as the acceptance of certain fundamental principles, one of which demands the restoration of faith in a system of security and peace. These things we shall not see until Britain, the Soviet Union and the United States can set the example by harmonising their own views and policies. In short, until Russia is ready to play a constructive part in world recovery, we can look for little relief of the tension. She has yet to show that she does not watch with equanimity, if indeed she is not actively promoting, the friction and disturbances in the storm-centres of the world. Or that she is prepared to endorse, by word and action, Molotov's own dictum: "Peace is indivisible."

OVERSEAS LEAGUE

Members of the Overseas League in Hong Kong are invited to get into touch with the Acting Hon. Corresponding Secretary for H.K., Lt. A. C. Squires, R.A.M.C., Civil Affairs Medical Department. The former local Secretary, Mr. Stopani Thomson, was killed at Stanley Internment Camp. He was one of the fourteen victims of the bombing of Bungalow C.

SIX MONTHS HARD

Lau Piu, 30, unemployed, was charged before Mr. C. Y. Kwan at the Summary Military Court yesterday, with larceny from the person and breach of the Deportation Ordinance.

Accused was arrested when he stole $2.80 from a Chinese woman in Queen's Road West on Saturday afternoon. When his record was checked, it was discovered that he was banished from the Colony for life in 1937.

Sentence of six months' hard labour was imposed.

ECONOMIC EXPERT ON LOCAL PRICES

DR. DOUGLAS COPLAND, NEW AUSTRALIAN MINISTER TO CHINA AND THE COMMONWEALTH'S WARTIME PRICE CONTROL ADMINISTRATOR, EXPRESSED THE BELIEF YESTERDAY THAT ANY ATTEMPT TO GREATLY BROADEN THE BASE OF PRICE CONTROL IN HONG KONG WOULD BE IMPRACTICAL.

THE FORMER MELBOURNE UNIVERSITY PROFESSOR OF ECONOMICS, WHO WON CREDIT FOR HOLDING AUSTRALIAN PRICES IN LINE WITH A FIRM HAND DURING THE WAR, SAID NUMEROUS FACTORS MAKE THE COLONY A DIFFICULT SPOT FOR ALL-INCLUSIVE PRICE CONTROLS.

He said he thought price control on all lines was the best system in a place where it was practical because of the conditions and the familiarity of the population with controls, but, he said, Hong Kong would present "a major set of difficulties."

"You would have a low price area with prices running wild in areas all around," he explained. "There would be the problems of smuggling and distribution. You can't control prices unless you can control distribution.

If the base is broadened, the effectiveness on the basic necessities is bound to be reduced. Price control may be effective on a few essentials, but it would be a much more difficult project to try to extend it to the wide array of items in the market.

H.K. RECOVERY

Dr. Copland said he found more goods than he expected in Hong Kong shop windows, but, he hastened to add: "Certainly not more than the colony needs. Australia would like to help much more to meet Hong Kong's needs, but with our many commitments we just don't have it to send. Australia has large commitments to England and to U.N.R.R.A."

He expressed the opinion that Hong Kong's general appearance of recovery struck him as being "remarkable."

Dr. Copland mentioned fruit specifically as being a product for which Australia could find a big sale here, but said it wasn't available because the Commonwealth had proceeded under a programme of strict production control. He said the output is now being increased but it still is under a production control system.

FAR EAST MARKET

Price control has spared Australia from the runaway prices that followed the first World War, he said. The price of Commonwealth steel is the lowest in the world, he added, and the country is looking forward to a greatly expanded market in the Far East as it increases production with an eye on exports.

There will be a heavy demand for steel in Australia because civilian construction virtually ceased during the past three years and the projected conversion of railroad lines to a standard gauge will require great quantities of steel.

He declined to discuss the political situation or the problems he expects to face in Chungking, commenting: "It would be unwise for me to start talking in advance about what I am going to do when I get there."—Associated Press.

CHINESE "DOWN UNDER"

Dr. Douglas Copland, Australia's new Minister to China, said at a press conference yesterday that the Chinese nationals in Australia are well accepted as part of the Australian community. The Chinese are prosperous and, he thought, extremely happy.

He said that a new China-Australia Society had been established in Melbourne and Sydney with a large membership which included many Chinese businessmen. He believed the Chinese population in Australia was about 11,000 at present.

Australia had a greater proportion of her working population in the Armed Forces, Dr. Copland said, than any other democracy.

Australian exports, the Minister said, were nothing like the amount which Australia wished to export, but she had to make allotments to England, India, U.N.R.R.A. and some of the armed forces. Hong Kong was getting some of Australia's exports, although not as much as Hong Kong would like to have.

LABOUR SHORTAGE

In answer to a question, Dr. Copland said that the labour shortage was very acute during the war, and there was manpower control. The situation at present was not as acute, but it was still quite serious.

Australia was still rationing her people in foodstuffs, such as meat, butter, tea and sugar, and also as far as clothing. She had to go on rationing in order to make allotments to the countries which needed her products.

The total national income of individuals in Australia amounted to Australian £1,300,000,000, while the pre-war figure was £300,000,000.

The cost of living in Australia had been risen by 22.5 per cent. compared with the pre-war mark. He added that the cost of living in Australia was one of the lowest in the world.

The Minister will be leaving the Colony sometime this week for Chungking.

Dr. Copland is a former Professor of Economics, and is best known in Australia for his success in stabilising prices during the war. Mr. Copland is now aged 53. He has travelled widely, but this is his first visit to China.

Mrs. Copland and her younger daughter will join the Minister after the establishment of the legation in Nanking.

GOLD JUMPS 20 POINTS

An outstanding feature of the money market over the week-end was the spurt in gold, which has jumped 20 points since Saturday.

Yesterday the market opened strong at $551 per tael. By noon it had reached $556, and before the day was over buyers were offering 560.

In the Chinese national currency market an under-tone of uncertainty prevailed, and the rate alternated with the buying and selling.

In the morning futures opened at HK$2.87 to CN$1,000 and for a time buyers were predominant, but a wave of selling soon forced the rate down to $2.75. It recovered somewhat towards the close with buyers offering $2.80.

Spot opened at $3.10 and closed at $3.15.

U.S. dollars have appreciated to $6.10, while English Sterling and Australian pounds were firm at $18 and $12.70 respectively.

FATAL ACCIDENT

Knocked down by an R.A.F. motor-cycle, a 15-year-old boy, Liu Shek-fook, died of his injuries in hospital last night. The accident occurred at about 4.50 p.m. when Flt.-Sgt. Whithan, R.A.F., was proceeding along the Castle Peak Road. Sgt. Whithan says he was doing about 25 m.p.h. and as he drew near two boys, one of them dashed across the road; he was unable to avoid hitting him.

The forthcoming marriage between Wong Ching-yu, secretary of No. 73, Bonham Road, and Miss Mildred Au, is announced.

Readers' Letters

A REGULAR ON DEMOB

Sir,—Every day I hear discussions relating to demobilisation—so much so that I am really beginning to find this subject a little tedious. In all these discussions I have noticed that one never hears the other side of this question. I would therefore, through the medium of your column, like very much to present my point of view.

I, myself, have been in the services just over 7 years during which time I have served in several countries and I can truthfully say that I have not regretted one minute of my time. For any man, I think that service life is not only educational inasmuch he is given the opportunity of seeing countries which he would not ordinarily see, but that it improves his physical condition which would in civilian life be relatively poor. I will admit that sometimes the food is not too good and other little inconveniences crop up on occasion, but for the most part the serviceman enjoys a fairly easy time. Here in Hong Kong service personnel have ample facilities for entertainment and plenty of spare time in which to pursue it. Most of them will be going home within a year or two under the age plus service system (which, believe it or not, I think is a very fair scheme). In spite of their good luck, these fellows who have been overseas for a few months seem to think that they ought to be on their way home already.

Speaking from experience, having spent over 3 years in Cairo, I am certain that a year or so away from home will make them appreciate their wives and dear ones much more than they did in civilian life. They will return fitter, more disciplined and more experienced men ready to form the nucleus of a new fighting force should our country ever become imperiled again.

In finishing I might add that throughout my entire service life I have been in the ranks and am proud of it.

"REGULAR".

* * *

RHYTHM AND RHYME

Sir,—I cannot agree with Euterpe's evaluation of the discussion on poetry now in progress in your columns.

If we were to "subjugate personal feelings and prejudices" I do not consider that we should see much evidence of life, let alone evolution, in any of the arts. An art, like a government, is alive and healthy only when there is criticism and opposition.

Euterpe is correct in assuming that the rhythm of "Express" is intentional. It is intended to convey a sense of inevitability, and to give an impression of the speed and sound characteristic of the metaphor employed.

The answer to Euterpe's question "why is modern poetry considered great?" could be developed as a lengthy dissertation involving the use of far more space than one could ask of your letter columns.

Briefly, the poet was at one time content that his appeal should go straight to the heart. The poet of to-day works through the mind of his reader. If, through the mind, the heart can be touched, the resultant emotions will be far more worthwhile than the transient, and of ten cheap and nasty, products of sentimentality.

To achieve this, the poet must write as much from the head as from the heart.

The traditional usages of rhyme are on the decline, and assonance is much employed instead. Assonantal rhymes produce an effectiveness which cannot be denied, and their thrill can perhaps be best likened to that provided by the suspensions and implied rhythms of pure-jazz music improvisation.

Here is an example by Auden:

Upon this line between adventure
Prolong the meeting out of good nature
Obvious in each agreeable feature."

This is music, wonderful music never dreamed of in the "moon and June" philosophy.

Similarly, the modern poet is no longer content with the traditional rhythmic schemes. He forges new patterns as his work progresses, in sympathy with his theme.

Here is Spender:

"...Near the snow, near the sun, in the highest fields,
See how their names are feted by the waving grass
And by the streamers of white cloud
And whispers of wind in the listening sky."

The poet of to-day will often deliberately employ either a sensational, or an oblique, angle of approach, in order to arrest the reader's attention, or to impress an immediate vivid picture on his mind.

For example:

"Look in a pool of fresh-discarded blood,
And touch it ....."

Poetry is nearer philosophy to-day than it has ever been: It is concerned with the individual, and his relationship to life and death. The thematic structure of poetry to-day asks, and attempts to answer, these questions concerning life: "What does it all mean," and "What is the purpose of it all?"

These are the questions of pure philosophy, and modern verse is an evaluation of life and living, and an honest attempt to find the true meaning of existence. Poetry is nearer the essence of philosophy to-day, and, therefore, it is nearer to being the true art-form it will doubtless become.

No art has yet succeeded in becoming completely philosophical, but poetry to-day is pre-eminent as the art which is fastest approaching this ideal.

The poetry of yesterday dealt with abstractions, and Georgian poetry in particular is notorious for its refusal to face up to life and experience as an integrated whole. Like all abstract thought, it gives the impression of self-sufficiency and smugness.

My survey of modern verse construction and approach has, of necessity, been limited, but I hope Euterpe will be sufficiently encouraged to take up the study of modern verse in his leisure time. He will not regret the time spent, and I dare to predict that he will become an addict.

PHILOSOPHIA.

* * *

LITERARY HACK

Sir,—It has been brought to my notice that a number of unscrupulous members of the Colony have been bandying my name about in such a manner that not only is ridicule and contempt showered upon my past record but my future career is also endangered. As a peace-loving horse I must point out, here and now, that this matter has gone much too far and I am now placing the facts in the hands of my solicitors and any future offenders will hear something to their disadvantage. On the other hoof, I must admit that I welcome correspondence from admirers and those of your readers, if any, who are qualified to meet me on the same intellectual or athletic level.

I was disappointed to read Barron Wright's denial that his poem "Nostalgia" was not dedicated to myself—or is he ashamed to admit it? Is he not aware that many poets have written verses in honour of their steeds and on one memorable occasion a king of England was heard to exclaim, "A horse! A horse! My kingdom for a horse!" I forgive Mr. Wright this rather astonishing lapse because, as a rather old-fashioned animal, I think that I prefer his poems to those of his critics, however highbrow they may be. To my mind it is infinitely preferable to read smoothly-running verse painting such vivid pictures of the English countryside to some of the restless, rhymless lines breathing disillusion and death, grinning skulls and decomposed bodies. Personally, I had thought Mr. Wright's verses very reminiscent of those of Rupert Brooke but who am I to judge, being only a horse?

NOSTALGIA.

Plans Of Robbery In Man's Mouth

FIVE UNEMPLOYED CHINESE WERE BROUGHT BEFORE MR. A. EL ARCULLI AT THE SUMMARY MILITARY COURT YESTERDAY CHARGED WITH ROBBERY AT NO. 328 HENNESSY ROAD, GROUND FLOOR, ON THE EVENING OF FEB. 9, AND WITH UNLAWFUL POSSESSION OF ARMS AT THE SHAN KWONG HOTEL ON THE SAME DAY.

Detective Inspector F. A. Ewins of No. 2 Police Station, conducted the prosecution.

The accused were Chan Hing, 30, Wong Wah, 32, Chan Fai, 23, Ng Yee-man, 24 and Ho Su-ming, 24.

It was alleged that some time before 8 p.m. on Feb. 9, the accused entered No. 328, Hennessy Road, ground floor, the Nam Hop charcoal shop. They were armed with three revolvers and a dagger. The occupants were forced into the kitchen where they were bound and gagged. The master of the shop Lo To was forced by the accused to open the safe. Lo ran up to the cockloft where he raised the alarm.

Complainant's son, Lo Ping-wong, chased and stopped one of the robbers. The man, first accused, drew a revolver. Lo took the weapon from him and struck him on the head with it. Accused was arrested.

Acting on information, detectives went to room No. 203, Shan Kwong Hotel, Happy Valley, where the second and third accused were found.

Second accused was armed with a fully-loaded revolver and third accused was lying on the bed under which was a revolver. A dagger was found under the pillow.

A detective was posted in the room and at about 9.15 p.m. the same evening, the fourth and fifth accused returned and were arrested.

A piece of paper containing plans of the robbery was found in second accused's mouth.

Fourth defendant admitted that he booked the room as a meeting place for the gang.

After evidence by the shop keeper Lo To and other witnesses the case was adjourned.

EVICTION ORDER

Hearing of the application brought by the Shiu Hing Company for possession of No. 178, Des Voeux Road Central, third floor, from Mak Che-kam was concluded yesterday before the Tenancy Tribunal.

The application was granted, the order to be effective from March 11.

The Tribunal was composed of Messrs. W. N. Thomas Tam, Ngan Shing-kwan and Luk Oi-wan.

Mr. M. A. da Silva represented applicants while opponent appeared in person.

Applicants claimed possession of the premises on the ground that the opponent was not a recognised tenant and had not paid rent since the re-occupation. Applicants further claimed that the original tenants, the On Lok Company, had gone out of existence.

Opponents resisted the application, claiming that he was a partner of the On Lok Company which, he said, was still in operation.

In a collision between an R.A.S.C. and a Food Control lorry near the old Police Training School in Nathan Road at about 6 p.m. yesterday, the former was badly damaged. No one was hurt.

Bus Service Unlikely To Improve Yet

PROSPECTS FOR AN IMPROVED MOTOR BUS SERVICE ON THE MAINLAND IN THE NEAR FUTURE ARE NOT AT ALL PROMISING, IT WAS LEARNED BY THE "CHINA MAIL" YESTERDAY.

OF THE PRE-WAR FLEET OF 150 BUSES MAINTAINED BY THE KOWLOON MOTOR BUS CO. THERE ARE NOW ONLY 10 AVAILABLE, SEVEN OF WHICH SERVE THE TWO ROUTES FROM THE STAR FERRY TERMINUS TO KOWLOON CITY AND SHAMSHUIPO.

Three are held in reserve and five more are in process of renovation. The seven vehicles available maintain a 15-minute service between 6.53 a.m. and 10.53 p.m. from the Kowloon City and Shamshuipo termini and between 7.13 a.m. and 11.13 p.m. from the Star Ferry terminus.

A large number of the vehicles were used by the Japanese as trucks and it is believed that a good number were shipped to Japan. Where recovered, vehicles were found in such a state that the problem of repair and renovation, with the present cost of materials and labour, has not been deemed a sound economic proposition.

Negotiations, it was learned from an official of the Company, are in progress for the purchase of new vehicles from the United Kingdom. These are not yet available and the most optimistic information does not promise the possibility of any new buses for Hong Kong earlier than the end of this year.

HUMPHREYS ESTATE AND FINANCE COMPANY LIMITED

NOTICE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that an Ordinary General Meeting of Shareholders will be held at the Company's Registered Office, Alexandra Building, on Thursday, the 14th March 1946 at 12 noon, for the purpose of receiving the Report of the Directors together with a Statement of Accounts for the year ended 31st December 1941.

AND NOTICE IS HEREBY ALSO GIVEN that an Extraordinary General Meeting of the Company will be held at the same place and on the same day at 12.30 p.m. or so soon afterwards as the Ordinary General Meeting shall be concluded, when the subjoined resolutions will be submitted

(1) That Article 105 of the Company's Articles of Association be altered by striking out the words "Secretary and" in the seventh line thereof

(2) That the foregoing resolution shall be retrospective and shall take effect from the 1st day of December 1945.

Dated the 26th day of February, 1946.

JOHN D. HUMPHREYS & SON.
General Managers.

BRITISH MILITARY ADMINISTRATION HONG KONG.

CENTRAL EXECUTIVE BRANCH

NOTICE

Distribution of Tomato Seedlings

A quantity of Tomato Seedlings is ready for distribution by the Agricultural and Forestry Department, Room No. 17, 1st Floor, Post Office Building on Thursday, the 28th. Applicants are requested to bring their own containers.

T. R. ROWELL, Col. (C.A.)
Central Executive Branch.

BRITISH MILITARY ADMINISTRATION, HONG KONG.

LEGAL BRANCH

NOTICE.

COMPANIES ORDINANCE, 1932.

The Companies Registry is now open for registration of new companies, filing annual returns and generally for the transaction of business.

The following registers and books have been recovered:

1 roll of Public and Private companies.

1 Limited Partnership Register.

1 Chinese Limited Partnership Register.

1 Register of Trust Companies.

7 Registers of Mortgages.

On the other hand none of the files of companies, other than those relating to companies which re-registered during the Japanese occupation, have been recovered so far, and it is feared they may have perished. It is not known how far companies can supply this serious lacuna. It is obvious that if they cannot, legislation will be necessary. In order to be able to consider the form of such legislation, all companies which were registered on the 24th December, 1941, and are now carrying on or intend to resume business in the Colony are asked to furnish the following particulars to the Registrar of Companies:

1. Name of the Company.
2. Names of persons acting as Directors of the Company.
3. Name of person acting as Secretary of the Company.
4. Registered Office.
5. Whether in possession or able to obtain:
   (a) copies of Memorandum and Articles of Association.
   (b) Share register.
   (c) Register of Charges.
   (d) Copies of Annual Returns since the incorporation of the Company.
   (e) Copies of:—
      (i) Special resolutions.
      (ii) Extraordinary resolutions.
      (iii) Resolutions which have been agreed to by all the members of a Company, but which, if not so agreed to, would not have been effective for their purpose unless, as the case may be, they had been passed as special resolutions or as extraordinary resolutions.
      (iv) Resolutions or agreements which have been agreed to by all the members of some class of shareholders, but which, if not so agreed to, would not have been effective for their purpose unless they had been passed by some particular majority or otherwise in some particular manner, and all resolutions or agreements which effectively bind all the members of any class of shareholders though not agreed to by all those members.

While it is not proposed to penalise companies and directors who are endeavouring, in difficult circumstances, to comply with the law, it is obvious that the present position cannot be allowed to continue.

DATED the 12th day of February, 1946.

H. A. de BARROS BOTELHO,
Acting Registrar of Companies.

HITLER'S WRONG GUESSES

Publication Of Secret Documents

ROBOTS TO RECORD BOMB TEST

Bikini Atoll, Feb. 25.

Only spectators on this island for the atom bomb tests offshore this Spring will be recording robots. Construction battalions are soon to build a concrete tower with lead-lined compartments in which cameras and scientific instruments will be placed.

No resentment is evident among the natives who must give up their homes and migrate to nearby Rongerick island within a few days.

How the islanders managed to retain their robust health is a mystery. There is nothing on the island except coconut supplies, a few bread fruit trees, taro plants, pandanas and huts including a "government house" and a church.

The people are friendly and good natured and all but children are fully clothed as taught by missionaries. They quickly learned the value of American money and the price of everything is now "dollars" regardless of value.

As soon as immigration is completed, construction crews will prepare a 2-1/2 mile long and 1/2 mile wide island for the atom bomb tests.—Associated Press.

HITLERITE MIGHT BE ELIMINATED

New York, Feb. 25.

The son of Ernst Hanfstaengel, Hitler's favourite pianist before he fled from Germany in 1937, is attempting to have his father admitted to the United States instead of being deported to Germany from London.

The younger Hanfstaengel flew to London with affidavits for the United States Embassy there guaranteeing that his father would not become a public charge if admitted to the United States.

The son said he feared "some Nazi or German nationalist might eliminate" his father because he furnished information to the United States Government during the war.—Associated Press.

Fateful Month Of The War

NUERNBERG, FEB. 25.

ADOLF HITLER MADE SIX WRONG GUESSES IN A MONTH THAT TURNED THE TIDE OF WAR IN FAVOUR OF BRITAIN AND THE UNITED STATES, TOP SECRET GERMAN DOCUMENTS DISCLOSED.

CONFRONTED WITH THE FACT THAT EISENHOWER'S FORCES HAD LANDED IN ALGERIA AND MOROCCO ON NOV. 8, 1942, THE FUEHRER'S TAUNTED INTUITION FAILED HIM:

Firstly, he frantically alerted the German garrison in Norway, two seas and a continent from Africa, to expect an imminent Allied attack, ordered a Jaeger division to Narvik and additional reserves to Oslo and confessed that "Sweden's attitude in the case of a landing would be very unreliable."

Secondly, at the same time the distraught ex-corporal functioning as Supreme Commander of the Wehrmacht envisaged an immediate Allied strike toward the Rumanian oil fields.

"The Fuehrer holds that the quiet in the eastern Mediterranean, the great troop arrivals in South Africa in the last months, the complete lack of news from the west Indian Ocean and news of increased Commando strength on Cyprus should lead us to fear a sudden massive blow to cripple Rumanian oil," the official record noted.

AFRICA PANIC

Hitler also ordered more troops and Luftwaffe squadrons to Crete and the Peloponnesus at the time when Rommel fleeing from Alamein needed reserves and a handful of German armistice commissioners in French North Africa were in a panic over the "shape of things to come."

Thirdly, disregarding grave appeals of his highest naval advisers, Hitler refused to negotiate with the Vichy fleet at Toulon for future collaboration on a new basis of equality. Although Grand Admiral Raeder had painstakingly sought to arrange for the French war ships with French crews to join in the sea war and had obtained a tentative joint acceptance from the Italian Admiralty, the Fuehrer threw this deal overboard.

Before the French fleet scuttled itself Raeder received a letter from the Vichy Secretary of State for the Navy Rear-Admiral Auphan protesting against Hitler's Armistice violations.

SPANISH PLAN

Auphan wrote that in African waters "faithful to engagements made and promises given the French Navy fought fiercely and without the slightest defection against the aggressors who were your enemies and against whom I speak of the Americans—they had never felt any hate."

Fourthly, the Fuehrer dallied with a plan he had prepared two years earlier for the occupation of Spain and the closing of the western Mediterranean at Gizraltar.

He informed the Wehrmacht that the time was ripe for action but that first he must negotiate with Franco. Then he did nothing more.

Fifthly, seeing the spectre of invasion virtually everywhere he looked along the coastline of German occupied Europe and decided to dismantle the guns from idle Nazi warships and to convert them to shore batteries counting this defense factor as of greater value than the offensive power of these ships if sent out as raiders.

U-BOAT TRANSPORTS

Sixthly he upset the nerves of his U-boat builders by commanding them to divide their efforts so as not only to construct urgently needed replacements for Doenitz's wolfpacks but to experiment with "U-boat transports." He explained that he was considering the advisability of taking Iceland from the Americans for Luftwaffe bases. He said that "U-boat transports" would be feasible for carrying German invasion forces on such a mission and could also be used as commercial blockade runners with essential cargoes.—Associated Press.

FORECAST FOR INDIA

WASHINGTON, FEB. 25.

FORECASTING "GRAVE DEVELOPMENTS" IN THE INDIAN POLITICAL SITUATION AS THE RESULT OF CURRENT BOMBAY VIOLENCE AND THE NAVAL MUTINY, MR. A. SINGH, SECRETARY IN WASHINGTON FOR THE NATIONAL COMMITTEE, SAID TO-DAY: "IT APPEARS INDIA IS HEADED FOR A SHOWDOWN. THIS IS CONFIRMED BY BRITISH ACTION IN SENDING THE THREE CABINET DELEGATES TO INDIA TO DISCUSS THE NATION'S FUTURE WITH INDIAN LEADERS."

He said there is at present a movement among Asiatic peoples, led by Indians, for a conference to discuss "race discrimination and imperialism." He said Siam, Indonesia and all Asiatic peoples, including China, would be represented.

The United States State Department said it is "concerned about things in India and is watching developments," but had taken no action, although trying to ascertain the specific causes of the Bombay troubles.

The Washington "Star" said editorially that "the psychological atmosphere prevailing in India to-day is so explosive that a contagious effect on all branches of the armed forces is probable."

It expressed the belief the demonstrations "are perhaps the most ominous manifestations to date of that widespread unrest which may portend grave developments."—Associated Press.

Cardinals Snub To Franco

Vatican City, Feb. 25.

Nine of eleven Cardinals from North and South American stayed away from a state dinner at Franco's Embassy to the Holy See. Some gave illness as their reason and one said he was too busy but in most cases no explanation was available.

Of the four United States Cardinals only Francis J. Spellman attended.

The Embassy Secretary declined to speculate as to whether any significance should be attached to their actions. He added that Cardinal Spellman had been invited to dine with General Francisco Franco when he arrived at Madrid on his homeward trip and said that it was likely that the Portuguese Premier Salazar would extend a similar invitation when the party arrived in Lisbon on March 3.

The Secretary said that he believed it likely that some of the other Latin-American Cardinals would stop in Madrid or Lisbon on their homeward trip.—Associated Press.

Asiatic Situation Made To Order For Russia

WASHINGTON, FEB. 25.

DR. WALTER JUDD, ONE-TIME AMERICAN MEDICAL MISSIONARY TO ASIA AND NOW A U.S. CONGRESSMAN FROM MINNESOTA, SAID THAT "THE ONLY WAY FOR THE BRITISH TO HOLD INDIA IS TO LET HER GO—BUT BRITAIN CAN'T DO THAT NOW IN THE FACE OF ARMED DISORDERS BECAUSE IT WOULD BE SURRENDER."

Judd blamed the British for failure to make constructive offers to India years ago and said: "All she can do now is to suppress the disorders and hope to negotiate a solution. We should not underestimate the seriousness of the India situation. India must have an outlet for her political aspirations or explode."

The Congressman also criticised suggestions that United States troops be withdrawn from India and China as soon as possible saying "if America gets cold feet and folds up in China we might as well kiss the Orient goodbye."

Judd declared that Russia is attempting to establish its influence throughout Asia and "what happens in Manchuria depends on what we do in the Orient." He said the Asiatic situation was "made to order for Russia."

"The Bombay disorders are throwing Indian radicals into the arms of Russia. If we cease to assist India and China the way will be opened for unrestricted Moscow influence into all Asia from the North."

Judd said the problem of Asia was his primary interest in international affairs.—Associated Press.

ENSA STAR THEATRE

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"DOC" MOLTHEN HAS RESUMED PRACTICE.
SHELL HOUSE, 1ST FLOOR
Hours 10.00 a.m. to 5.00 p.m.
SATURDAYS TILL NOON

BLUE FUNNEL LINE

M.V. "AJAX" sails Mid. March for U.K. via Straits.
"EURYBATES" sails 2nd week March for Vancouver.
For Passage and Freight Particulars,
apply to:—
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BUTTERFIELD & SWIRE, AGENTS

FAR EASTERN SHIPPING AGENCIES

SAILING TO SHANGHAI

C.N. Co. S.S. "NINGHAI" (No passengers) Noon 25th Feb.
C.N. Co. S.S. "YOCHOW" (No passengers) Noon 28th Feb.

SAILING TO SWATOW

A.&O.S.N. Co. S.S. "BUSANG" (withdrawn—pending repairs)

SAILING TO CANTON

C.N. Co. S.S. "FATSHAN" 6 a.m. 28th Feb.

Subject to alteration without notice

For Freight and Passage apply to:—

F. E. S. A.
Union Building, Pedder Street
Telephones: Coastal Shipping 24049 and 30081 (Chinese)
Ocean Shipping 20042

The public is hereby notified that *Deck Passenger Tickets* for vessel operated by us only on sale at:—

FAR EASTERN SHIPPING AGENCIES.
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Tickets are NOT Transferable.

Political Bodies Protest To Generalissimo

CHUNGKING, FEB. 25.

THE COMMUNISTS YESTERDAY MADE PUBLIC THE TEXT OF THE PROTEST THEY SENT TO PRESIDENT CHIANG KAI-SHEK AGAINST ACTION OF INTRUDERS WHO WRECKED THE DOWNTOWN OFFICE AND BOOKSTORE OF THE COMMUNIST NEWSPAPER "NEW CHINA DAILY NEWS" ON FEB. 22.

THE LETTER SAID—"THIS ORGANISED OUTRAGE APPARENTLY SHOWS THAT REACTIONARIES WITHIN YOUR PARTY WHO ARE ANTI-SOVIET, ANTI-COMMUNIST AND ANTI-DEMOCRATIC ARE ATTEMPTING TO WRECK COOPERATION BETWEEN THE ALLIES, TO SPLIT THE NATION, TO UNDERMINE THE GOVERNMENT'S PRESTIGE AND OVERTURN THE DECISIONS OF THE POLITICAL CONSULTATIVE CONFERENCE.

"If these intriguers and special service agents are allowed to have their way, those who advocate democracy and unity will have no safeguard for their freedoms and lives. How then can we talk about democracy in politics and co-operation among Allies?

"These outrages are defying the dignity of Government and the solemn promises of your Excellency.

"We, for the sake of peace, democracy, unity and unification cannot help from presenting a solemn—protest—and—demand that Government punish the ringleaders, disband the special service organisations, apologise for the insult, compensate us and the Democratic League for the losses suffered and guarantee there will be no recurrence of similar incidents."

The letter was signed by Chou En-lai and six other Communists.

DEMOCRATIC PROTEST

The Democratic League has protested to the Government against the action of intruders who on Feb. 22 raided the business office of its newspaper, the "Democratic Daily," it was disclosed yesterday.

The protest, which was addressed to President Chiang Kai-shek personally, was written by Chang Lan, leader of the League.

Chang Lan classified the raid with the recent search by police of the home of a prominent member of the League and said that if the Generalissimo were to deal leniently with the culprits the League would doubt his sincerity in the matter of protecting freedom of the people.

Chang Lan requested abolition of the secret police and guarantees against recurrence of incidents.—Associated Press.

DONNA BACK WITH MA

Los Angeles, Feb. 25.

Four-months-old Donna Lee Kelly is home with her mother after being in a ward of the General Hospital in a mix-up over her birth certificate.

The mother, Mrs. Anna Pitts, was boarding the baby while she worked and the woman caring for her turned over to the hospital when Mrs. Pitts could not be located. The hospital refused to release Donna until her mother produced a birth certificate.

After some delay she received the verification from Quincy, Massachusetts, that her baby was born there.—Associated Press.

London, Feb. 24.

Vladimir Potemkin, 68, Soviet Commissar for Education, died in Moscow yesterday after a long illness, according to Moscow radio heard by Associated Press.

Potemkin was a member of the Communist Party Central Committee.—Associated Press.

Protest By Vienna Jews

Vienna, Feb. 25.

Between 200 and 250 Jews carrying banners "open the gates of Palestine" and "Justice for the Jewish people" marched on the Bristol and Sacher Hotels here where members of the Anglo-American Committee studying the Jewish problem in Europe are staying.

After four jeep loads of international military police were sent to guard against trouble the procession dispersed without disorders. The members of the committee were out of the hotel as luncheon guests of General Mark Clark.

The group brushed aside Russian and American members of one police patrol when they attempted to divert marchers from the busy Schotenring into a side street.

One of the leaders Josef Rittman protested that the Committee "had not interviewed real Jews" but only leaders.

So far the members of the Committee have interviewed Premier Dr. Karl Renner and Chancellor Leopold Figl, three leaders of the Jewish community and a number of Jews in hospitals.

The demonstrators were made up of both Viennese Jews and displaced Jews from other parts of Europe and Rittman said that the march was spontaneous.—Associated Press.

MARINES' TASK

Honolulu, Feb. 25.

Major-General Keller Rockey, Commander of the United States Marines in North China, said in an interview yesterday that his 45,000 men are serving as a stabilising influence after nearly completing their original task of securing ports for Chinese troop movements and helping to disarm the Japanese.

Rockey declared there were persistent reports that Japanese troops captured in Manchuria have been sent to Siberia by the Russians and "so far as I know they haven't sent any of them back to Japan." He pointed out that what occurs in the Russian zone is unknown officially to outsiders.—Associated Press.

Japs. Still Hold Out

Manila, Feb. 25.

A Commonwealth Government spokesman to-day estimated there were at least 4,000 unsurrendered Japanese soldiers in the Philippines of whom probably 11 were killed in a battle with American-led Philippine army troops on Feb. 22 near the mouth of Manila Bay.

The spokesman said the largest Japanese forces were 800 on Luzon and 600 in Bisayan islands. He said in addition there were possible 2,400 Filipino renegades at large.

United States policy since V-J day has been to let the Philippine army carry out mopping up of Japanese stragglers with the aid of American officers. While practically all Japanese holdouts know that the war ended six months ago, many refuse to believe it and many of those who are convinced that Japan has surrendered prefer to fight to the death.—Associated Press.

New York, Feb. 24.

Lewis J. Valentine, former New York City police commissioner, said to-day he would leave Friday for Tokyo to direct the police organisation there under General MacArthur's Headquarters. He said Don Hayes, Tucson, Arizona, police chief, had been added to his staff.—Associated Press.

H·B

H.B. BEER

We beg to inform H.M. Forces and the general public of Hong Kong that we shall be able to supply our H.B. Beer in limited quantities through the following distributing centres:—

WING ON COMPANY, LTD. LANE, CRAWFORD LTD.
THE SUN COMPANY, LTD. SINCERE COMPANY, LTD.
MESSRS. KWAN TYE LOONG, 4 Queen Victoria Street.
CHINA EMPORIUM, LTD. 62/68 Queen's Road, Ctl.
MESSRS. HUNG CHEONG STORE, 66 Nathan Road, Kowloon.

THE PRICE WILL BE $1.95 A BOTTLE

H.M. Forces are requested to apply direct to our Office at Dina House stating their minimum requirements, and special prices will be quoted on application.
Customers are kindly requested to return empty bottles and cases to their respective suppliers in order to ensure subsequent supplies.

The Hong Kong Brewery & Distillery Ltd.,

DINA HOUSE, HONG KONG.

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THE ASIATIC PETROLEUM CO. (SOUTH CHINA), LTD.

Announce

COMMENCING 1ST MARCH, 1946,

SHELL PRODUCTS

WILL BE ON SALE TO THE PUBLIC.

Motorists kindly note that the following Filling Stations will commence operating on the 1st March:—

HONG KONG: Stubbs Road Garage,
Murray Road,
Shell Service Station, Hennessy Road,
Hong Kong Cricket Club.

KOWLOON: Salisbury Road,
Gascoigne Road.

For Civil Affairs Personnel only:
Blake Pier.

Shell House, 24-25 Queen's Rd. Central, Hong Kong.

Tel. Nos. 28041, 28042 & 28043.

HONG KONG SERVICES RACE CLUB

A

MILITARY RACE MEETING

In aid of

The Commander-in-Chief's

FUND FOR THE DISTRESSED OF HONG KONG

will be held at

HAPPY VALLEY RACE COURSE
ON SUNDAY, 3RD MARCH

FIRST SADDLING BELL 1.30 P.M.
FIRST RACE STARTS AT 2.00 P.M.

PARI MUTUEL

Betting will be in operation in both the Members and Public Enclosures.

TOTE DOUBLE:
on the 2nd and 4th races.

CASH SWEEPS

There will be a Special Cash Sweep on the last race, tickets for which ($2) may be obtained at the Office of The Hong Kong Jockey Club, Exchange Building, First floor, together with the usual "Through" numbers ($10) including a chance in the Special Sweep.

Entrance..... Public Enclosure $1.00 including Tax
Members „ $3.00 „ „

Wing Comdr. F. W. CHADWICK, D.F.C.,
Secretary, H.K.S.R.C.

BY COURTESY OF THE HONG KONG JOCKEY CLUB.

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Consult Us To-day!

JAPAN'S WASTED CHANCES

Loss Of Vast Potential Markets

"Pravda" On Old Theme

Moscow, Feb. 25.

"Pravda's" international commentator "Reviewer" said that the British Foreign Minister Ernest Bevin had suffered "a serious moral and political defeat" at the United Nations Security Council meetings.

Yet, despite facts known to the whole world, "Reviewer" declared that such British newspapers as the "Observer," "Daily Herald" and "Daily Mail" stated that Mr. Bevin had gained "a moral victory."

The writer charged part of the British press with taking upon itself "the thankless labour of helping Mr. Bevin in that unenviable situation in which he appeared as a result of his speeches at the Security Council meetings which, as it is not difficult to understand, placed the British Government as a whole in a difficult situation."—Associated Press.

HIROHITO'S STALLION

Los Angeles, Feb. 24.

All the earnings obtained by Emperor Hirohito's white Arabian stallion "Hatsa Shimo," at present owned by the former army lieutenant, Dick Ryan, will be used for the benefit of American veterans of World War No. 2, Ryan's lawyer announced today.

Ryan has received numerous requests for Hatsu Shimo's appearance and he has agreed on the condition that all exhibitions will be for wounded veterans, and any earnings will be placed in a fund to help entertain the wounded and convalescent servicemen in American hospitals.

Hatsu Shimo is at an Army base hospital near Los Angeles after a recent boat trip from Tokyo.—Associated Press.

India's Need For Food

London, Feb. 23.

If India is not granted supplies of cereals before the end of May, the three-man mission of Cabinet Members to India may fail, Members of the India Food Delegation predicted.

Sir Ramaswami Mudaliar, head of the delegation, told Prime Minister Clement R. Attlee: "We are not asking for luxuries. We are merely asking for a handful of cereals so that millions might keep body and soul together."

A. D. Gorwala, Bombay Food Commissioner, asserted that the Combined Food Board in Washington had enough food and that since India had helped Britain during the war Britain should help India by bringing pressure to bear on the International Food Board.—Associated Press.

China Taking Over Commerce

NEW YORK, FEB. 25.

THE "TIMES" THINKS THAT CHINA MAY TAKE OVER MUCH OF JAPAN'S FOREIGN MARKETS BUT WILL NEED MANCHURIA AND ALSO AMERICAN AID TO DO IT.

IN ITS EDITORIAL YESTERDAY IT SAID: "NEWS THAT SOME JAPANESE IMPORTS AND EXPORTS ARE TO BE RESUMED MERELY UNDERLINES WHAT JAPAN LOST AS A RESULT OF HER ADVENTURE IN MILITARY IMPERIALISM.

Before the war nearly two-thirds of her exports went in the form of low-priced goods to Far Eastern countries. The total—something over $600,000,000 a year—was not great as we measure money to-day.

"Opportunities were illimitable. An increase of a few dollars a year in the average income of the Chinese, for instance, would have vastly expanded Japan's market. If she had been patient and tactful she might have enriched herself out of her growing commerce."

The "Times" says the curtailment of Japanese trade will probably stimulate industrialisation of China. There was some progress in this direction during the war, it said.

PERTINENT QUESTION

But China to-day is still three-fourths agricultural. Enormous capital investments, most of them financed by foreign loans, will be necessary before she catches up with the machine-conscious Occident. Years must pass.

The pertinent question to-day is whether she has definitely started on the industrial trend which will some day make her nearly self-sufficient. The principal point of doubt at the moment is when and whether China will recover full control of the resources of Manchuria.

The "Times" said that the growing alarm of the Chinese people over Manchurian developments has reached a stage that makes it "improbable that Government will be able to resist this pressure."

The paper goes on to analyse half a dozen international documents and concludes: "Any dispute over Manchuria automatically involves not only Russia and China but also the United States, the British Empire and the U.N.O.—Associated Press.

BILL TO HALT CONSCRIPTION

Washington, Feb. 24.

A Bill designed to halt conscription by creating a special occupation army of volunteers has been prepared by Chairman Carl Vinson, Democrat of Georgia, of the House Naval Committee.

Vinson told newsmen yesterday that he will introduce a measure next week which will authorize a volunteer corps of 600,000 men to handle occupation duties in foreign countries, seeking to encourage enlistments by special inducements.

These would offer enlistees free transportation to and from home on 30 days' yearly furlough, provide free transportation to and from home for the enlistees' families and double base pay of enlisted men and warrant officers.

Those eligible will be men between 18 and 36 years for terms of two to six years.

Vinson said: "As jobs get more difficult to find men will be glad to have an opportunity to see the world at double the pay the army man regularly gets."—Associated Press.

Ford Fitter Sues Company

London, Feb. 24.

John Fitzsimons' job as rotary fitter involved him in a succession of accidental injuries, the Court of Appeal has decided. His appeal from the decision of the Salford County Court Judge was allowed and leave to appeal to the House of Lords was refused.

Lord Justice Scott, giving judgment said that each vibration of the rotating machine which Fitzsimons operated gave infinitesmal blows to the man's hand and so damaged his nerves which controlled his blood supply leading to the dead hand.

Fitzsimons, who lives at Atherton, Lancashire, was said to be suffering from Raynauds' disease, a rare condition.

When he claimed compensation from Ford Motor Company Limited (Aero Engines) in the County Court, it was held that he had not been incapacitated by accident.

The Court of Appeal held that he suffered injury by accident to his hand over a period of 19 months through the machine's vibrations.—Reuter.

WASTED JOURNEY

Honolulu, Feb. 24.

Captain Anthony Bledsoe, of the liberty ship "Pocacontas" said yesterday that he had sailed all the way to Okinawa and Manila with badly needed supplies for the army forces there, only to be ordered back to the United States with the cargo intact.

He said that the cargo included laundry and dry cleaning equipment for Manila and such other items as 50,000 cases of beer, band instruments, fire trucks, cranes for structural work, textbooks, phonograph records and cigarettes.

He said his original orders took him to Okinawa on December 7, where the weather delayed unloading, and on January 11 he was ordered to proceed to Manila. There he waited his turn to discharge the cargo but on January 29 was told to return to the United States with the original cargo.

"All I know is my orders came from Washington" Bledsoe said.—Associated Press.

UNRRA PLANS FOR 1947

Washington, Feb. 24.

The United Nations' Relief and Rehabilitation Administration, anticipating the end of its relief programme in China in April, 1947, announced to-day it would train Chinese relief workers to carry on the job.

Out of 165 fellowships to be granted welfare workers from all parts of the world, China is due to get 33. The workers will be trained in the United States for from six to nine months as specialists in working with medical, research, nursing, sanitary engineering, welfare, industrial and agricultural rehabilitation activities.

U.N.R.R.A. said it will have spent approximately U.S.$3,000,000 in war-damaged countries by the time it ends its existence next year. Its administrators hope the work they began may continue in a measure in the recipient countries. — Associated Press.

SIXTH ARMY HEAD

Washington, Feb. 24.

Gen. Joseph W. Stilwell, former American Commander in China, has been named Commander of the re-activated Sixth Army. He is the Commander of the Western Defence Command, which will be de-activated.

The Sixth Army, which was de-activated in Japan after fighting through New Guinea, the Solomons and the Philippines, will be re-established on March 1 with Headquarters at The Presidio in San Francisco.—Associated Press.

BRIDGE NOTES

"What error," asks a Hartford, Conn., reader, "was committed in the bidding of this hand?"

South, Dealer.
Both sides vulnerable

S. A K J 8
H. 10 4
D. J 8 6 2
C. A 8 5

S. Q 10 9 6 5 / H. 7 / D. K 7 3 / C. K Q J 6

S. 8 7 4 2 / H. J 6 5 3 / D. 5 / C. 10 9 4 3

S. —
H. A K Q 9 8 2
D. A Q 10 9 4
C. 7 2

The bidding:

South	West	North	East
1 H.	1 S.	Dbl	Pass
2 D.	Pass	2 NT	Pass
3 D.	Pass	3 N T	Pass
4 H.	Pass	5 D.	Pass
Pass	Pass		

"Had the diamond finesse worked, South would have made a Grand Slam, and even though the finesse lost, he made a Small Slam. He maintains that failure to bid the Slam must be laid at North's door because North failed to realise the importance of the black Aces and strong diamond support. North maintains that South might have bid the same way if he had lacked both red Aces. Who is right?"

The error in the bidding must be charged to South. North's penalty double of one spade was perfectly proper, but South was justified in refusing to let it stand. South's bid of two diamonds, however, was not the best choice. Such a bid indicated a red two-suiter, with only a meagre amount of high-card strength. Because of that inference, it was never possible for North to bid a Slam.

South should have bid three diamonds to show that the hand was an excellent one despite the inability to "stand for" a double of one spade. Then North would have realised that his high cards in the black suits would guarantee South against loss except in the red suits (for South would be marked with at least four red cards). And the jump bid would indicate the strength of the red suits; so North might explore Grand Slam possibilities but would make sure of getting to at least a Small Slam.

* * *

Yesterday you were David Bruce Burnstone's partner and, with neither side vulnerable, you held:

S. K J 9 7 3
H. K 10 4
D. Q 5
C. K 6 3

The bidding:

Burnstone	Schenken	You	Jacoby
1 H.	Pass	1 S.	Pass
2 S.	Pass	(?)	

ANSWER: Bid three hearts. You are strong enough to make a try for game and should suggest to your partner a choice between the major suits. The diamond weakness makes a rebid in no-trump unwise.

Score 100 per cent. for three hearts, 80 per cent. for three spades, 40 per cent. for two no-trump, 30 per cent. for four spades.

QUESTION

To day you are Howard Schenken's partner and, with neither side vulnerable, you hold:

S. K J 9 7
H. 10 4
D. K J 5
C. A 10 6 3

The bidding:

Schenken	Maier	You	Jacoby
1 H.	Pass	1 S.	Pass
2 S	Pass	(?)	

What do you bid? (Answer To-morrow).

Democratic League Stand On Manchuria

CHUNGKING, FEB. 25.

AT A PRESS CONFERENCE YESTERDAY CHANG LAN, HEAD OF THE DEMOCRATIC LEAGUE, DEFINED THE ATTITUDE OF THE LEAGUE TOWARD MANCHURIA.

He made four points: firstly—the League supported the decisions of the recent Political Consultative Conference and would oppose any attempt to prevent their fulfilment;

Secondly—China's freedom and independence and security must be built on the foundation of national unification;

Thirdly—China herself must adopt a policy of non-aggression and at the same time must not tolerate foreign aggression;

Fourthly—the integrity of Manchuria must be respected.

China should fulfil her obligations under the Sino-Soviet Treaty, Government must make public its negotiations in Manchuria.

It should conduct a full investigation into the recent assassination of the Nationalist Economic Commissioner Chang Hsin-fu and attempt to ascertain Russians plans for withdrawal from Manchuria.

Chang Lan suggested the appointment of a sub-committee made up of delegates to the recent political Consultative Conference to deal with various problems which have arisen between Government and Communists in Manchuria.

Chang Lan insisted that the situation in Manchuria must be solved as soon as possible but emphasised that nothing must be done inconsistent with the preservation of China's territorial and administrative integrity.—Associated Press.

FAR EASTERN SHIPPING AGENCIES.

Masters of all vessels in port are requested to make certain that their owners have appointed Agents to act for them after 2nd March, when F.E.S.A. closes.

CLOSURE OF FAR EASTERN SHIPPING AGENCIES

The last day of business of Far Eastern Shipping Agencies (except for accounting) will be Saturday, 2nd March. Thereafter all ships' business will be transacted by the respective individual Owners' Agents.

The Accounting Department will remain in the present Accounts Office on the first floor, Union Building, to deal with accounting matters that have arisen prior to 2nd March.

NOTICE

As from the 25th February our Office will be on the 1st Floor, CHUNG TIN BUILDING, 5 Des Voeux Road, Central.

SHEWAN, TOMES & CO., LTD.

REWARD H.K.$1,000

A Reward of HONGKONG DOLLARS ONE THOUSAND will be paid to anyone giving information leading to the recovery of a LARGE SAFE containing this Company's Account Records.

MODWELL & CO., LTD.

CHINA LIGHT & POWER COMPANY, LIMITED.

CHANGE OF TELEPHONE NUMBERS

As from Monday, 25th February, 1946, the following telephone numbers will be in use:—

Administrative Office	58046
„ „	58047
„ „	58048
Manager	58044
Executive Engineer	58045
Distribution Engineer	50454
Secretary	58524
Chief Accountant	59690
Consumers' Accounts	58595
„ „	58606
EMERGENCY REPAIRS DAY AND NIGHT	58046

CHINA LIGHT & POWER COMPANY, LIMITED.
F. C. CLEMO,
Acting Manager.
Kowloon, 20th February, 1946.

"THORNYCROFT"

Our Branch Office has opened temporary premises c/o Messrs. Blair & Co., at French Bank Building, 2nd floor, and we shall be obliged if all prospective clients will communicate enquiries to that address during the present emergency period where they will be promptly handled and communicated to our executive who is now proceeding to London to ascertain full details and specifications with prices of latest models on all lines of our products:—

Vehicles—Petrol/Diesel.
Marine Engines—Petrol/Diesel.
Boilers—Water Tube.
Motor Boats & Water Craft of all description.

Our Hong Kong & China office is a Direct Branch of:—

Messrs.
JOHN I. THORNYCROFT & Co., Ltd.,
Smith Square,
Westminster,
London.

SHOWING TO-DAY
QUEEN'S
At 2.30, 5.15, 7.15, 9.15 p.m.

YOUR FAVORITE FUN—STARS ARE BACK!
...IN THEIR FIRST IN A YEAR!
....AND THEIR FUNNIEST OF ALL!

BUD ABBOTT & LOU COSTELLO

In Society

A UNIVERSAL PICTURE

COMING SOON

TYRONE POWER in HIS GREATEST AND BIGGEST HIT

"Son of Fury"

A 20TH CENTURY-FOX SUPER PRODUCTION

See It Again

"BATHING BEAUTY"

The Record Breaking film Starring
ESTHER WILLIAMS & RED SKELTON

In Gorgeous Technicolour: A Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer Picture.
NOW IN ITS 25th DAY AT THE
KING'S THEATRE
DAILY AT 2.30; 5.10; 7.15 AND 9.15 P.M.

To-Day & To-Morrow
MAJESTIC
At 2.30, 5.00, 7.00 & 9.00 p.m.

SPENCER TRACY, LIONEL BARRYMORE
in
"CAPTAIN COURAGEOUS"
A Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer Picture

NEXT CHANGE
Robert Taylor Loves Greta Garbo
in "CAMILLE"

The Hong Kong Rehabilitation Football League

INTERPORT FOOTBALL MATCHES

HONG KONG v. CANTON

SATURDAY, 2nd MARCH, 1946

CHINESE v. UNITED SERVICES

SUNDAY, 3rd MARCH, 1946

At Navy Ground, Causeway Bay.
Kick off at 4.00 p.m.

ADMISSION:

Chairs	$4.00 and $0.70 tax
Seats	$3.00 and $0.50 tax
Standing Room	$1.00 and $0.20 tax

BOOKING FOR CHAIRS AND SEATS ONLY can be made at the office of the League, Alexandra Building, first floor, daily between the hours of 5.00 to 6.00 p.m.

CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING

20 WORDS $2 FOR ONE INSERTION PREPAID. $1 FOR EACH ADDITIONAL INSERTION, ADDITIONAL WORDS 10 CTS. PER WORD PER INSERTION

$2

Replies are awaiting at our offices for Box Nos. 25, 33, 36, 47, 62.

WANTED KNOWN

ANYTHING & everything for calculators. Also Calculating machines. Excellent services. Hong Kong Typewriter Exchange, 9, D'Aguilar Street. Tel. 21433.

DON'T miss the Chance—Come and join our new full Commercial Course and Pitman Shorthand Course (taught by Englishman). Commencing 1st March. We have recently bought fifteen new Typewriters. Our Typewriting Course is the most perfect one. Blind touch system is adopted. Fees moderate. Nanyang Commercial Academy, 8, Queen's Road, Central, 2nd floor.

WHY experiment with new chests! See our magnificent collection of "pre-war made" exquisitely carved chests. Warranted incrackable. Also unpacked a huge shipment of finest Soochow silk embroidered garments, new street dresses, jumpers, hats, lipsticks. Greatest variety, lowest prices. Mode Elite, 22 Queen's Road, Central.

OFFICES WANTED

WANTED:— One or more first class offices, good location; also modernized first class furniture, for office, parlour and bed-room. Kindly phone 20990 or call Mr. Tam at 217, Marina House.

PANTIE THIEF

A young Chinese woman, Yeung Siu-chun, was sentenced to four weeks' hard labour by Mr. C. Y. Kwan at the Summary Military Court yesterday, for the theft of three pairs of panties from a shop in Queen's Road Central on Saturday.

Inspector H. Soll, who prosecuted, said that accused was seen acting in a suspicious manner outside the China Emporium. A constable followed and observed her when she went into the Mei Mei Shop at No. 74, Queen's Road. There she was seen to take the panties from the counter, while bargaining with the girl.

Good Fare Expected At Fights To-night

EXCELLENT FARE IS PROMISED AT THE CHARITY BOXING TOURNAMENT AT THE LEE THEATRE THIS EVENING, UNDER THE PATRONAGE OF HIS EXCELLENCY, VICE-ADMIRAL SIR CECIL HARCOURT, AND THE CHAIRMANSHIP OF LIEUT. COL. KAY, THE PROCEEDS OF WHICH WILL GO TO THE FUNDS OF THE HONG KONG WELFARE ASSOCIATION.

THE RESPONSE FROM CIVILIAN BOXERS, IF ANY, IN THE COLONY HAS BEEN DISAPPOINTING AND THE PROGRAMME WILL BE MADE UP MAINLY OF BRITISH SERVICE BOXERS. THE AMERICAN NAVY HAS NOT YET SENT IN THE NAMES OF THEIR BOXERS TO FIGHT AMONG THEMSELVES NOR THEIR NOMINEE TO MEET P. O. COFFIN.

Should no suitable American opponent be found for Coffin, A. B. Merce will fill the gap in a middle-weight contest.

All the boxers are in excellent trim and have been training hard. The respective trainers are confident of their men.

P.O. Queen, H.M.S. Rame Head, has four under his charge. They are Stoker T. Clarke, Stoker C. Clarke, Stoker Hart and Stoker Young.

Stoker T. Clarke, who is to meet L.A.C. Miller, is a clever hard hitting fighter with plenty of stamina and spirit. He has appeared at the Liverpool Stadium and in Brisbane and represented his ship's team regularly.

Stoker T. Clarke who is to meet his shipmate, Hart, is a classy and stylish boxer and has also appeared in fights in Brisbane.

TRICKY BOXER

Hart, who is a newcomer to boxing is a game fighter. He has taken part in several intership and naval competitions. Though not generally expected to beat Clark it is certain that he will put a good fight.

Stoker Young, who will be conceding six pounds to his opponent, is a tricky and fast boxer. Not very experienced, he has shown a natural bent for the game and uses both hands effectively.

P.O. Coffin, who is to meet an American, is an experienced fighter and has represented the Navy on several occasions in Inter-Services Boxing competitions.

The following is to-night's programme:—

BANTAM WEIGHT

Stoker Young (H.M.S. Rame Head) v. Rawlins (R.A.F.).

WELTER WEIGHT

L.A.C. Caffery (R.A.F.) v. Lt. Tunnell (5 Commandos).

A.B. McMurdie (H.M.S. Trafalgar) v. Cpl. Roberts (1 Commandos).

L/Cpl. Ralph (1 Commandos) v. L.A.C. Sharrett (R.A.F.).

A.B. Moore (H.M.S. Tamar) v. Cpl. Valintine (R.A.S.C.).

LIGHT WEIGHT

Stoker Hart (H.M.S. Rame Head) v. Stoker C. Clark (H.M.S. Rame Head).

Stoker T. Clark (H.M.S. Rame Head) v. L.A.C. Miller (R.A.F.).

MIDDLE WEIGHT

Tel. Summerhayes (H.M.S. Talent) v. L.A.C. Evans (R.A.F.).

C.M.S. Smith (44 Commandos) v. L.A.C. Holdsworth (R.A.F.).

LIGHT HEAVY

Sgt. Crellin (1 Commandos) v Cpl. Taylor (5 Commandos).

HEAVY WEIGHT

C.S.M. Mullholland (1 Commandos) v. Major Miller (South Staffs).

The referees for the fights are Capt. R. Turpin, Lt.-Cmdr. F. J. Lee, Col. C. E. Phillips and the judges, Lt.-Col. P. W. Holling, Sq.-Ldr. A. H. Hollis, Capt. F. A. Harris and Flt.-Lt. Wood.

6,000 Destitutes In Colony

The number of genuine cases of destitutes in the Colony needing relief is in the vicinity of 6,000. The Hong Kong & Kowloon Refugee Relief Association, on whose shoulders rest the chief responsibility for feeding, clothing and giving medical care to the poor and destitute, with support from the Government and philanthropic sources, arrived at this figure from the numbers queuing up at the cooked rice distribution centres.

In the beginning, as many as 13,000 people obtained free cooked rice at these centres, but gradually the number fell off until, about a week ago, it had dwindled to about 7,000.

The Association then thought of a novel way of checking whether all these people were genuinely in need of relief and substituted congee for rice. The more fastigious left the queues, so that within a few days the number dropped to 6,000-odd, to whom new ration tickets have been issued and as from yesterday cooked rice has been restored at the rate of one pound per head.

OPIUM DENS

For keeping an opium divan and for possession of opium, at No. 79, Main Street East, Shaukiwan, Chung Nam was fined $1,200 or four months' hard labour by Mr. C. Y. Kwan yesterday.

Another woman, Chau Yee-so, was fined $2,000 or six months' hard labour for keeping a divan at No. 135, Main Street East.

Wong Hon was fined $100 or two weeks' hard labour, for possession of eight mace of prepared opium at the Vehicular Ferry wharf on Sunday. He was arrested by a marine patrol.

BALLS OF RAW OPIUM

Yum Chuen, unemployed, was fined $400 or three months' hard labour by Mr. W. H. Latimer yesterday for the unlawful possession of four taels of raw opium. Inspector Rhodes said that Fus. Callanah, Second Troop, No. 6 Commandos, arrested the defendant at the Lo Wu border on Feb. 24. Two balls of raw opium were found in defendant's pocket. The opium was confiscated.

BLACK-MARKET TICKETS

Attempting to sell black-market cinema tickets at the Good World Theatre, Kowloon, on Feb. 24, a Chinese, Wong Kwong Choi, was arrested by a detective and summoned before Mr. W. H. Latimer yesterday. Accused pleaded guilty and was sentenced to two weeks' hard labour or a fine of $50.

Inspector Jack said that accused was selling 60-cent tickets at 60 cents. Altogether, 59 tickets were found on him.

PICKPOCKET SENTENCED

A pickpocket, Pok Yim, thrice convicted previously and deported on Oct. 30, 1939, was caught red-handed on a Kowloon motor bus on Feb. 23 whilst picking the pocket of a Chinese passenger.

Summoned before Mr. W. H. Latimer yesterday, accused pleaded guilty and was sentenced to a year's hard labour, to be followed by deportation. Inspector White prosecuted.

Application for confiscation of a canvas ammunition pouch containing 60 rounds of ammunition, and an oil bottle, was granted to Inspector Forster by Mr. W. H. Latimer yesterday.

Inspector Forster stated that a coolie, Kwok Ping Ki, found the articles on the roof of the telephone room at the K.C.R. Station.

INTERPORT FOOTBALL

At the meeting of the Interport committee held last night final arrangements were made in connection with the forthcoming visit of the Canton football team this week-end.

Mr. Wong Ka-tsun, chairman, presided, and other present were Commander Robinson-Aikman, Wing Commander Connelley, Messrs. C. Gulmgam, Charles Hing, K. K. Ip, C.P.O. Rogers and Mr. L. F. Souza, Hon. Secretary.

It was decided that the visitors be accommodated at the Good View Hotel and that the Interport dinner be held at the Ying King Restaurant, Wanchai.

An entertainment sub-committee was appointed consisting of Messrs. C. Gulmgam, K. K. Ip and the Hon. Secretary and all arrangements in connection with the ground was left to a committee of C.P.O. Rogers, Messrs. C. Gulmgam and Charles Hing.

THE TEAMS

The following are the teams:—

Canton:—Wong Wah-kai; Ip Pak-wah and Hau King-seng; Kwok Ying-kee, Chang Kam-hoi and Lo Wai-kuen; Tang Kwong-sum, Fung King-cheong, Chan Tak-fai, Lau Tau-man and Hau Ching-to.

Reserves:—Cheung Hoi-cheung, Iu Yui-tak and Tan Woo-cheung.

Hong Kong:—Bax; Hau Yung-sang and Headon; Jack, Smith (Capt.) and McCrystall; Crawford, Chau Man-chi, Brown, Lai Shui-wing and Wong King-cheong.

Reserves: — Wilkes, Leung Wing-chui, Hanlon and Griffiths.

Team Manager: — Commander Robinson-Aikman.

Combined Chinese:—Lee Kwok-kee; Hau Yung-sang and Tse Kam-hung; Chang Kam-hoi, Hau King-seng and Leung Wing-chui; Lee Tak-kee, Fung King-cheong, Chan Tak-fai, Lee Wai-tong and Hau Ching-to.

Reserves:—Fook Yui-wah, Lo Wai-kuen, Chau Man-chi and Cheuk Shek-kam.

Team Manager:—Mr. Charles Hing.

Combined Services: — Bax; Swash (Capt.) and McCrystall; Jack, Smith and Headon; Crawford, Hanlon, Brown, Feenan and Griffiths.

Reserves:—Wilkes, Pennington, Lennox and Franklin.

The referee for the first game will be Mr. K. K. Ip, assisted by Messrs. Bartlett and Pollitt on the lines.

C.P.O. Rogers; with Messrs. Young and McCockindale, on the line, will officiate at the second game

FIGHT CANCELLED

New York, Feb. 25.

The Willie Pep-Sal. Bartolo 15-round fight for the world featherweight championship, scheduled for Friday night, has been cancelled because Bartolo asserted he is not in condition.

Promoter Mike Jacobs immediately announced Jimmy McAllister of Baltimore will meet Pep in a 10-round non-title bout as a substitute attraction. The Pep-Bartolo bout would have eliminated the dual title confusion. Pep is recognised as champion in New York and Pennsylvania and Bartolo is recognised by the National Boxing association. The featherweight division has had two "champions" since 1938.—Associated Press.

BASEBALL SALARIES

Tampa, Fla., Feb. 25.

Baseball salaries are spiraling upward at such a rate that Babe Ruth's fabulous all-time high of $80,000 a year may be endangered in another year.

Inflation definitely has arrived in the major leagues, where Detroit's player payroll has climbed to close to $400,000, with Hank Greenberg and Hal Newhouser leading the big money parade.

Although definite figures never are available on players' salaries, it is estimated that the 16 major league teams will shell out in the vicinity of $5,000,000 for players' salaries this season.

Larry McPhail was sure his New York Yankees' total of $360,000 would be tops for the season when he announced the figure a month ago, but Detroit probably will go higher. Greenberg's estimated $60,000 is the highest salary in the majors, but it is conceivable that "Hammerin' Hank" might have topped Ruth's long-standing record by this time if the war hadn't interrupted his ball career. He returned from the army during the 1945 season and promptly became the world series star.—Associated Press.

CENTRAL THEATRE

Showing To-Day At 2.30, 5.15, 7.15 & 9.15 p.m.

"BEYOND THE BLUE HORIZON" IN TECHNICOLOR!

A Paramount Picture starring
DOROTHY LAMOUR
with
RICHARD DENNING
JACK HALEY
PATRICIA MORISON
WALTER ABEL
HELEN GILBERT
ELIZABETH PATTERSON

NEXT ATTRACTION

"SURE I LIKE LOVE...BUT NOT WITH YOU...I LIKE IT WITH Benny!"

Dorothy LAMOUR · Arturo DE CORDOVA
in Paramount's
"A Medal FOR Benny"
From the Story by JOHN STEINBECK and Jack Wagner
with
J. CARROL NAISH
Mikhail Rasumny · Frank McHugh

John Steinbeck's daring answer to today's most dramatic love problem!

SHOWING TO-DAY
ALHAMBRA
At 2.30, 5.00 7.00 & 9.00 p.m.

Hey, look, Paulette... THEY'RE HOLDING US OVER!

You bet we're holding you over, Bob. Those happy, laughing crowds just won't let you go. Honestly, this new hit is ten times funnier than "Caught in the Draft," and that's nothing but the truth!

HOPE BOB CROSBY BING CROSBY
BUT THE TRUTH

LEE THEATRE

Commencing To-Morrow
At 2.30, 5.15, 7.15, & 9.15 p.m.

MURDER WITH A WINK!

It's a BAFFLER full of LAFFTER!

A COLUMBIA PICTURE
DANGEROUS BLONDES

ALLYN JOSLYN · EVELYN KEYES · EDMUND LOWE
JOHN HUBBARD · ANITA LOUISE · FRANK CRAVEN

TO-DAY
BOXING TOURNAMENT

ORIENTAL

4 SHOWS: 2.30—5.15—7.15—9.15
Showing To-Day & To-Morrow
EDDIE CANTOR
George Murphy · · · Joan Davis
in RKO Radio's Musical Hit!
"SHOW BUSINESS"
A Show from Amateur Night to Stardom!
Next Attraction
"GENTLE SEX"

CATHAY

Wanchai Road, Wanchai.
To-Day At 2.30, 5.15, 7.15 & 9.15 p.m.
DAVID NIVEN
GINGER ROGER
in
"BACHELOR MOTHER"
RKO RADIO PICTURE

CHINA FLEET CLUB THEATRE
ALL THIS WEEK
AT 7.30 P.M.
BY ARRANGEMENT WITH
THE BRITISH CENTRE, SYDNEY
PRESENTS
THE GREAT LEVANTE
IN
"ABRACADABRA"
SUPPORTED BY
GLADY COLE — JOY DENNY
SID CLARKE — MOLLY DURAL
ESME RAY LEVANTE
AND
BY THE COURTESY OF
ENSA ART CARNEIRO & HIS ORCHESTRA

Prices of Admission—Front Stall & Balcony ... $1.00
Back Stalls ... .50 cts.
ALL SEATS CAN BE BOOKED IN ADVANCE
AT CLUB OFFICE—TEL: 25804.

NESTLE'S PRODUCTS

GOVERNMENT CONTROLLED MAXIMUM RETAIL PRICES
"Milkmaid" Sweetened Condensed Milk
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BOMBAY ROUND-UP

Trouble-Makers Being Arrested In An Attempt To Prevent Further Riots

"PERFECT BABY"

Sydney, Feb. 25.

A Sydney couple who began an intense health campaign two years before their baby was born claim that as a result of dieting their daughter is the "perfect" baby.—Associated Press.

Weeding Out Undesirables

New York, Feb. 24.

The New York "Times" said to-day that Japanese who renounced their American citizenship during the war, and thereby demonstrated their disloyalty, should be shipped to Japan as quickly as possible.

The newspaper said the authorities seem in a quandry over what to do with the large number of both American and Japan-born Japanese who proclaimed their loyalty to Japan, but now have changed their minds and wish to remain in the United States.

Noting that American-born Japanese assumed full citizenship at the age of 21, after benefits of American schooling and life, the "Times" asserted that "anyone who could be moved to renounced American citizenship after so much personal experience with its freedoms and benefits can have no more right to remain here than any other undersirable alien and no shadow of a right to restoration of citizenship."

The newspaper said Americans appreciate the good qualities of law-abiding, industrious Japanese, and added: "Such Japanese, whether native born or of alien birth, deserve the respect of all." But, it asserted, those who renounced citizenship "are not the kind of people any of us care to deal with or have in this country." They should be spent as speedily as possible to the land they favoured in war.—Associated Press.

Public Gathering Prohibited

BOMBAY, FEB. 25.

THE POLICE ON SUNDAY NIGHT BEGAN A ROUND-UP OF PERSONS THEY HAD LISTED AS TROUBLE-MAKERS IN AN EFFORT TO PREVENT FURTHER RIOTS AND THOSE PICKED UP WILL BE QUESTIONED AND POSSIBLY INTERNED.

THIS FOLLOWED A DISCLOSURE THAT THE STUDENTS WERE PLANNING A DEMONSTRATION ON MONDAY PROTESTING AGAINST THE USE OF THE MILITARY AGAINST THE MUTINEERS.

The leaders of the Bombay Student Congress and the Bombay Congress Party have advised the students that if they insist on demonstrating they should do so peacefully at their schools and colleges.

Emergency orders now prohibit public gatherings and processions.

A communique said that the "situation in Bombay became much healthier to-day although the troops were forced to open fire on a mob attacking a mill." No person was injured.

An Army Headquarters announcement said that the men of the Royal Indian Air Force continued to refuse duty at a number of stations.

The report said that three members of the Royal Indian Navy had been killed and 34 service personnel wounded. It added that 187 civilians had been killed and 1,002 wounded.

Meanwhile word was received that Pandit Nehru was en route to Bombay to advise against further violence.—Associated Press.

MILLWORKERS RETURN

Bombay, Feb. 25.

More than 100,000 mill workers out of a total of 125,000 who normally work the day shift, went to work this morning and almost all mills have resumed operations, although some are without their full complement.

The situation in the industrial areas is described as "completely quiet". Elsewhere in the city, the sight of municipal sweepers out on the streets again added another note of returning confidence.

The big quermark for to-day was what the Bombay students would do as a result of the appeal by the All China Students' Federation for an Indiawide "hartal".

The answer to this will be known only later in the day, when most of the schools and colleges are to open after closing down during the riots.

In the past such students' hartals have often led to disturbances.

The Nationalist Bombay newspaper "The Chronicle" to-day reported the casualties since the disturbances began as 270 dead and over 1,700 injured of whom, it is said, 500 have already returned home after treatment.

The newspaper reported that the number of lorries, car and municipal vans burnt in the city during the disturbances numbered 300—a figure that has not been confirmed.

The newspaper featured Pandit Nehru's "rush to Bombay" and in a leading article strongly supported Gandhi's recent appeal for stoppage of this "thoughtless orgy of violence."

It is estimated that a considerable quantity of grain and at least 125,000 pounds of sugar have been looted or destroyed in attacks on 53 Government grain-shops during the disturbances.

The "Times of India", commenting on "the issue before India", refers to robberies and attacks on property such as jewellers' shops, which it says could by no stretch of imagination have anything to do with peaceful political demonstrations.

"CULT OF VIOLENCE"

"We are not concerned solely about the use of violence against British power. Our fear is that the cult of violence may be transferred to India's internal disputes."

Bombay was to-day officially stated to be practically normal" with all business houses, shops and markets open again in the "Fort" (European business quarter).

The Bombay Tramway Company and railway workshops are ok at work.

An Army communique to-day said that Indian Naval ratings have now returned to duty and there has been no "untoward incidents."

Dockyard workers who had been idle have also gone back but Royal Indian Air Force personnel continue to refuse duty, emphasizing, however, that their action is not connected with the Indian Navy incidents.

The communique said that the total civilian casualties in the disturbances amounted to 223 killed and 1,037 injured up to 9 a.m. to-day.

Among the premises looted during the disorder were nine banks, over 30 ships, 22 Government grain and cloth shops, 10 post offices and 10 police outposts.

CURFEW REVISED

The Bombay Police Commissioner to-day revised the curfew order as the situation has improved and it will now be in force between 8.00 p.m. and 6.00 a.m. instead of 7.30 p.m. and 6.30 a.m. The area to which the order applies has also been amended to exclude as many textile mills as possible. This will allow night shifts to return to work.

Two more warships—frigates—entered Bombay to-day.

No incidents have been reported so far as a result of the "hartal" (closing down) demanded by the All-India Students' Federation. Some of the students are not observing it.—Reuter.

A WORLD PROBLEM

Detroit, Feb. 25.

Seeing a more hopeful outcome to the efforts of the British Cabinet mission visiting India soon than the results of Sir Stafford Cripps' mission in 1942, the newspaper "Detroit Free Press", in an editorial comment on the "Indian Question" declares:

"The Indian problem is a world problem.

"The manner in which it is approached from now on will leave for better or worse a lasting impression on all Asia.

"The conflict of interest involved forces the Americans to adopt a benevolent attitude.

"While admitting the rights of India to independence we cannot ignore the case of our British friends at present," the paper adds.—Reuter.

"FATSHAN" RETURNS

The s.s. "Fatshan" arrived back from Canton yesterday afternoon shortly after 3 p.m., with nearly 1,000 passengers on board and a cargo which included 2,000 packages of military supplies for the Chinese Army.

The journey took just a little over six hours, and was uneventful. Passengers were all satisfied, and considered the trip a decided improvement on travel by train.

BARRICADES REMOVED

Bombay, Feb. 25.

A police statement said that road barricades have been removed by recruiting residents of the area as labourers and only a few minor incidents have been reported.

Royal Navy ships, including the light cruiser "Glasgow", formed a semi-circle inside the harbour and a large force of naval personnel in white shorts and blouses came ashore.

Meanwhile, reinforced British tommies took precautions to make certain the scheduled demonstrations by students would not cause a new outbreak of violence. No student disorders have been reported by this afternoon, however, and leaders of the Congress Party and Bombay Students' Congress urged that the demonstrations be cancelled. Some students insisted, nevertheless, they would protest against the use of British military forces against the mutineers.

"SCORES OF DEAD"

An Army communique placed the number of dead during last week's rioting at 190 but other sources said the toll actually was much greater and might never be known. These sources said that many of the bodies have already been cremated. The city's hospitals listed scores of dead and wounded simply as "unknown".

The British communique said that nine banks, 30 shops, 22 government buildings and cloth shops, 10 post-offices and 10 police outposts have been looted since the start of the disturbances.—Associated Press.

YOKOHAMA WAR TRIAL

Yokohama, Feb. 25.

Captain Yuhichi Sakamoto "contributed to the deaths of war prisoners by condoning actions of subordinates in withholding food and medical supplies," stated a cablegram from a former prisoner now in the United States, read into the 8th Army war crimes' trial record. The message was from Major Walter Kostecki of Boston, in reponse to a cabled query by the commission. Kostecki was formerly Allied medical officer at the Fukuoka branch camp where Sakamoto was commander.

ITALIAN CHARGED

Marino Bocca, former minor official in the Italian Embassy at Tokyo, is scheduled to go on trial to-morrow before the 8th Army Tribunal on a charge of buying United States Army materials from American soldiers. Bocca will be the first non-Japanese national to be tried by the 8th Army war crimes' commission.—Associated Press.

KAM TIN TO BE CULTIVATED

IN PURSUANCE OF THE ADMINISTRATION'S POLICY TO PRODUCE AS MUCH FOOD AS POSSIBLE FROM WHATEVER SOURCE, IT HAS BEEN DECIDED TO BRING KAM TIN AIRFIELD UNDER CULTIVATION AGAIN.

It will be remembered that the rice-fields there were resunted by the Government in 1936 for the construction of an airfield. As everyone knows, however, under the conditions obtaining to-day and likely to obtain in the future, this airfield, owing to the proximity of high hills, is out of date, and could not possibly be used by modern aircraft.

In order to make maximum use of all land capable of producing food, and with an eye to the provision of new agricultural land to make up for land being lost in the construction of the new Airport, Kam Tin Airfield is now to be surveyed and adapted for agricultural use. The work will be carried out by the R.A.F. in accordance with a scheme prepared by the Agriculture and Forestry Department, and in conjunction with that Department.

G.I.s In Arms "In Defence Of Love"

MANILA, FEB. 25.

A WELL-MEANING AMERICAN ARMY CHAPLAIN, IN A TALK TO A GROUP OF G-I'S, ADVISED THEM TO THINK TWICE BEFORE MARRYING A FILIPINA BECAUSE OF THE PREJUDICE THEY MIGHT ENCOUNTER WHEN THEY BROUGHT THEIR BROWN-SKINNED BRIDES BACK WITH THEM TO THE STATES.

"I ASK EVERY PARTY CONTEMPLATING A G-I — FILIPINA MARRIAGE TO KNOW THAT A FILIPINA COMING TO THE UNITED STATES WITH HER AMERICAN HUSBAND WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED SOCIALLY," CAPTAIN S. H. FORKNER TOLD THEM. "HER CHILDREN WILL BE LOOKED DOWN UPON BY OTHER CHILDREN."

These remarks were given considerable publicity by the local press and immediately the newspapers were deluged with letters from G.I.'s and Filipinas taking issue with the Chaplain. Love, they said could surmount all difficulties.

The Sunday magazine section of the "Manila Times," under the heading "In Defence of Love," ran two articles written by a G.I. and a Filipina girl, who announced that they were about to put the Chaplain's theories to a practical test.

The soldier said that the Chaplain's statement was "too sweeping." There are places in America, and families in America, and neighbours in America, where racial tolerance is still no fiction, "wrote soldier Eric Dane. "I am taking my Filipina bride to one such place.

"I am bent on marrying my Filipina financee. I have written my folks at home about her. If they reject my proposition of taking my bride across the Pacific, or if society, and what passes for it back home rejects my better half as an equal in the partnership, then she and I shall retire to our little world and live happily over after."

The belaboured Chaplain commented amid the furore: "Race prejudice does exist in the tremely unfortunate but it's States. It is wrong and exthere. We are doing our best to combat it, but such a fight must take a long time."—Reuter.

"BIRD IN HAND"

The Alexandra (Birmingham) Repertory Company gave their first local performance at the ENSA Star Theatre last night of John Drinkwater's "Bird in Hand," the play built around an obstinate inn-keeper who will not have his daughter marry "above her station."

Three travellers make an opportune appearance at the "Bird in Hand" Inn to present their opinions on the situation and to mediate on behalf of youth wishing to have its way. Larry Noble as Mr. Blanquet, the traveller in sardines, proves the most amusing.

The play boasts a bedroom scene where the weary travellers suffer an invasion of all the parties to the dispute. The most convincing portrait is Val Vaux's version off inn-keeper Greenleaf who believes that changing times are not an excuse for new standards of conduct.

Rosamund Riordan quietens into the background as Mrs. Greenleaf. Sheila Currie, as the daughter, holds attention. The other two travellers are ably portrayed by Trevor Denis, as an aspiring novelist, and William Senior as Ambrose Godolphin, K.C., Norman Hoult is a polished Sir Robert Arnwood. Ronald Campbell plays the romantic lead.

TRANSPORT TO LINER

London, Feb. 25.

Reconversion of the liner "Queen Elizabeth" from a troopship to peacetime service is scheduled to start at Southampton on March 6 when the 85,000-ton vessel arrives from New York. She will be refitted to return to trans-Atlantic crossings this Autumn.

Her sister ship "Queen Mary" will make several more Atlantic crossings with English wives of American soldiers before being refitted.—Associated Press.

BISHOP TIEN ON A TOUR

Rome, Feb. 25.

Thomas Cardinal Tien of China, the first non-Caucasian ever elected to the sacred college, will fly to the United States soon for a tour of several cities before he returns to China.

The Rev. Francis Clougherty of the Benedictine Chinese Mission at Lisle, Illinois; Hsieh Tsu-heng, Shanghai industrialist, and Dr. Pan Chao-ying, Chinese author and editor are to leave for the United States immediately to make plans for the Cardinal's visit.

American-born Father Clougherty has been in China 26 years, as a prisoner of the Japanese for the last four. He is a dean of the department of western literature at Honan University at Kaifeng and formerly was Chancellor of the Catholic University at Peiping.

Mr. Hsieh owns six wool and cotton factories in Shanghai and has arranged for the purchase of an American cotton mill at Jackson, Miss.

Dr. Pan is a graduate of Georgetown University's foreign service school and is one of the editors of the daily newspaper "Social Welfare," published in four Chinese cities.

Father Clougherty said one of his purposes while in the United States will be to recruit more American missionary personnel. He said Generalissimo Chiang Kai-shek "made a specific request that we increase the number assigned to China."—Associated Press.

Japan Election Postponed

Tokyo, Feb. 25.

The Cabinet to-day announced postponement of the general election until April 10 to permit "closer contact with Allied Headquarters for strict examination of the qualifications of candidates," said the Kyodo News Agency. The election formerly was scheduled for March 31.

It is understood that another reason for the postponement is the prospective issuance within a few days of Cabinet proposals for revision of the constitution. The Cabinet reportedly want this revision to be publicly discussed lengthily before the election.—Associated Press.

HIROHITO ABDICATION STILL BIG QUESTION

TOKYO, FEB. 25.

THE IMPERIAL PRINCES AND LEADING COURT OFFICIALS ARE DIVIDED INTO OPPOSING GROUPS BEHIND THE SCENES OVER THE STILL LIVE QUESTION OF THE EMPEROR'S ABDICATION, A HIGH COURT PERSONAGE TOLD THE ASSOCIATED PRESS.

THE EMPEROR HIMSELF HAS MADE STATEMENTS INDICATING THAT HE FAVOURS RETIREMENT WHEN THE TIME WILL BE CONSIDERED APPROPRIATE.

Such a move would be made to accept responsibility for his share in the war and not to forestall a possible war criminal arrest while he still remained, a reigning monarch, the source said.

Opponents of abdication believe Hirohito has "a moral and spiritual responsibility" for the war, the source added. Even highly placed Japanese, however, are unable to decide for themselves the Emperor's direct connection with the origins of the conflict, because so many official documents have been destroyed and recollections of major pre-war developments so confusing.

Another group around the throne argue that the Cabinet and Ministers, and not the Emperor, are responsible for events and therefore the Emperor should remain.

Hirohito is aware of this controversy. Shortly after broadcasting the surrender the Emperor told his intimates that "I want to take full responsibility" for the war, the source said. Abdication would place the 12-year-old Crown Prince Akihito on the throne governing through a regency.—Associated Press.

PICCADILLY HID A MAJOR WAR SECRET

LONDON, FEB. 25.

BENEATH A DISUSED UNDERGROUND RAILWAY STATION IN PICCADILLY LIES ONE OF THE GREAT SECRETS OF THE WAR—A SUITE OF OFFICES 100 FEET BELOW GROUND, WHERE GOVERNMENTAL EXECUTIVES CONFERRED DAILY ON CONTROL OF BRITISH RAILWAYS.

EACH DAY DURING THE BLITZ THE RAILWAY MANAGERS SAT IN CONFERENCE. AT NIGHT, MR. WINSTON CHURCHILL AND OTHER MEMBERS OF THE WAR CABINET TOOK OVER A THEIR MEETINGS OFTEN LASTED INTO THE EARLY HOURS, AS LATE AS 2 OR 3 A.M., MR. CHURCHILL WOULD TURN INTO BED FOR A FEW HOURS AND AT 8.00 A.M. GET INTO HIS "SIREN SUIT" AND HURRY OFF TO NO. 10 DOWNING STREET FOR THE START OF ANOTHER CROWDED DAY.

The underground offices are like the cabins of a modern liner. In addition to conference rooms, with panelled plywood walls there are dining rooms, kitchens, bathrooms and bedrooms. The principal rooms have wireless sets built into the walls.

Mr. G. Cole-Deacon, secretary of the Railway Executive Committee, was responsible for starting work on the underground office in March 1939. When war broke out, it was only half finished. But a few months later the offices were electrically controlled for ventilation, heating, cooking, lighting and sewage.

One of the offices, called "Number Ten," was built specially for use by Mr. Churchill and the War Cabinet.

Mr. Churchill, said a member of the railway committee, had a knack of taking his sleep at odd times. He usually slept from 7.00 p.m. to 7.45 p.m. At dinner he would discuss plans with his ministers or service chiefs and afterwards hold a cabinet meeting.

SAFE FROM BOMBING

During the heavy bombing, one of the committee's tasks was repairing damage to rail way tracks. The moment any damage was reported to the control room, at whatever hour of the day or night an alternative service was provided with minimum delay.

On the walls of the control room were large-scale maps studded with flags to show where bombs had fallen. The control room was in constant communication with the Admiralty, War Office, Air Ministry and other Government Departments so that arrangements could be made for moving men, guns and ammunition, including sea mines, from one part of the country to another at the shortest notice.

During the invasion period, more than 70 ambulance-trains were run each week, and even now the control room has to arrange for as many as 2,500 special trains over a period of seven days.

The staff was safe during raids except for possible danger from flooding. In the event of a direct hit on the entrance, there was an alternative way out of the offices on to the railway tracks with a special signal for stopping trains.—Reuter.

Millions Doomed To Slow Death

(Continued from Page 1)

days, is reported to have resulted in the complete destruction of the city, with nine houses out of some 50,000 remaining standing after the fighting. In this one city alone, 350,000 people are said to be on the verge of starvation.

REFUGEE PROBLEM

The situation in the four stricken provinces has been aggravated by the return of refugees, which has doubled since the beginning of February and is expected to reach its peak in the spring.

The C.N.R.R.A. is doing its utmost to alleviate the plight of the refugees by supplying them with food, lodging and medical treatment as well as delousing them.

Meanwhile, it has taken measures to overcome the transportation problem. It is negotiating with the United States Army and Navy for the loan of motor trucks, and if these should prove successful 300 tons of supplies will be sent immediately to Hunan province.

Negotiations between the C.N.R.R.A. and the Chinese authorities to the same end are also in progress.

The Hunan regional office of the C.N.R.R.A. has set in motion large-scale relief projects.

Besides arranging for a sum of C.N.C.$100,000,000 to be issued as loans to farmers for the purchase of seeds, farm animals, implements and fertilizers, it has sent out surveying teams preparatory to starting the construction of highways and the improvement and repairing of waterways. A number of spinning, dyeing and embroidery workshops have also been established to give employment to refugees.

The office has also appropriated a sum of C.N.C.$30,000,000 for the construction of homes for the poor in the cities of Changsha and Hengyang.—Reuter.

RADIO

TUESDAY, FEB. 26th, 1946.

STUDIO—JAZZ PIANO RECITAL BY RAY DENNISON.

ZBW HONGKONG broadcasting on a frequency of 640 Kilocycles and from 12.30 to 1.30 p.m., 6.30 to 7.30 p.m. and 9.00 to 11.00 p.m. also on 9.52 Megacycles.

H.K.T.

12.30 p.m.—Daily Programme Summary.
12.32 p.m.—Joe Loss & His Orchestra.
1.00 p.m.—News & Announcements.
1.10 p.m.—Albert Sandler's Trio.
1.30 p.m.—Philharmonic Symphony Orchestra of New York.
3.00 p.m.—Close Down.
6.30 p.m.—Gilbert & Sullivan Excerpts.
7.00 p.m.—London Relay—News.
7.15 p.m.—"Swing Time"—ENSA.
7.30 p.m.—Studio—Jazz Piano Recital by Ray Dennison.
7.45 p.m.—Variety with Ginger Rogers, Sophie Tucker, "Hutch" & other Favourites.
8.20 p.m.—"Services Music Hall"—ENSA.
8.50 p.m.—Band of H.M. Royal Air Force.
9.00 p.m.—London Relay—News.
9.05 p.m.—A Dance Programme.
9.30 p.m.—London Relay—Tommy Handley in "I'MA".
10.00 p.m.—"Passing Show"—R.A.F. Orchestra—ENSA.
10.30 p.m.—Edith Lorand and Her Viennese Orchestra with Milza Korjus (Soprano).
11.00 p.m.—Close Down.

Programmes marked ENSA are recorded specially for Services Entertainment by the Department of National Services Entertainment.

Printed and published for the Proprietors, The Newspaper Enterprise, Limited, by WAYTAM, JAMES KNAPP, Windsor House, Hong Kong.

Mr. S. E. Green, who returned to the Colony with his wife in the Matlana, has been a patient in Kowloon Hospital ever since his arrival. He is, however, improving rapidly and is expected to be able to leave in about a week.